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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

OF THE

GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA,

HELD IN THE

CITY OF MONTGOMERY,

COMMENCING DEC. 3D, A. D. 1877, A. L. 5877.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.:
BARRETT & BROWN, STEAM PRINTERS AND BOOK BINDERS.
1878.

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at this communication of the Grand Lodge on account of the ill health of a dear child.

The Grand Secretary read a letter from the W. Master of Troy Lodge No. 56 to P. G. M. Isaiah A. Wilson, announcing the death of P. G. Master, James McCaleb Wiley, who died at his home, in Troy, on the afternoon of Sunday, the 2d instant, at 3 ½ o'clock.

BOQUET PRESENTED.

Mrs. Daniel Sayre presented a Boquet to the Grand Lodge through Brother Joseph Winthrop Moses, and it was accepted by the R. W. D. G. M., Brother Henry Clay Armstrong, on behalf of the Grand Lodge.

REPORT ON THE E. A. DEGREE.

The Committee on Work, through Brother James M. Brundidge, made report on the E. A. Degree, and the report was received and concurred in.

P. G. M. Brother Joseph H. Johnson offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

DEATH OF P. G. M. WILEY.

Resolved, That a Committee of three, of which Brother William B. Wood shall be chairman, be appointed to report suitable resolutions upon the death of our beloved and venerable P. G. M. James McCaleb Wiley.

And the Committee was appointed, consisting of Brothers William B. Wood, Peleg Brown, and James M. Brundidge.

And then, after prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow morning at 8½ o'clock.

IN GRAND LODGE.

TUESDAY MORNING, December 4, 1877.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 8½ o'clock, the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, Henry Clay Armstrong, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

Prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The minutes were read and approved.

REPORT ON THE F. C. DEGREE.

The Committee on Work, by Brother Myles J. Greene, made report on the F. C. Degree, and the report was received and concurred in.

The report of the Committee on Work, on the M. M. Degree, was made the Special Order for 8 o'clock this evening.

Brother Rufus W. Cobb was appointed on the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence in place of Brother James McCaleb Wiley, deceased.

On motion of Brother Oliver S. Beers, the election of Grand officers was made the Special Order for 8 o'clock Wednesday evening.

LODGES REINSTATED.

On motion of Brother Grand Secretary, all lodges, the

PROCEEDINGS.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama and its Masonic Jurisdiction, commenced the Fifty-seventh Annual Grand Communication at the New Masonic Temple, in the City of Montgomery, on the Evening of Monday, the 3d day of December, A. D. 1877, A. L. 5877.

PRESENT:

HENRY CLAY ARMSTRONG, D. G. M., *as*....Grand Master.
WILSON WILLIAMS, P. G. M., *as*.....Deputy Grand Master.
HENRY C. TOMPKINS .....Senior Grand Warden.
RUFUS W. COBB.....Junior Grand Warden.
WILLIAM H. DINGLEY .....Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE.....Grand Secretary.
WILLIAM B. WOOD, *as* .....Grand Chaplain.
STEPHEN H. BEASLEY.....Grand Marshal.
JOHN H. BANKHEAD .....Senior Grand Deacon.
WILLIAM S. FOSTER, *as*.....Junior Grand Deacon.
ADAM R. BAKER.....Grand Steward.
JOHN W. MARTIN .....Grand Steward.
JAMES DAVIDSON.....Grand Tiler.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS:

WILSON WILLIAMS.....Grand Master.
JOSEPH H. JOHNSON.....Grand Master.
ISAIAH A. WILSON .....Grand Master.
SAM THOMPSON .....Deputy Grand Master.
JAMES M. BRUNDIDGE.....Junior Grand Warden.

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And the Masters, Wardens, and Proxies, from Subordinate Lodges, as follows:

No.	6.	Moulton	DeWitt Clinton White	W. M.
"	7.	Macon	Israel Grant*	"
"	8.	Farrar	Sam Thompson	"
"	10.	Royal White Hart	John A. Foster	"
"	11.	Montgomery	Daniel Sayre	"
			William H. Dingley	S. W.
			Joseph Winthrop Moses*	J. W.
"	14.	Florence	William B. Wood	W. M.
"	16.	Athens	Benjamin L. Allen	S. W.
"	22.	St. Albans	Henry A. Woolf	W. M.
"	25.	Dale	Lucky W. Jenkins*	S. W.
			Francis P. M. Gilbert	J. W.
"	27.	Selma Fraternal	William W. McCollum*	W. M.
"	28.	Marengo	Foster B. Terrell	"
"	29.	Rising Sun	James M. Brundidge*	"
"	31.	Autauga	Benjamin F. Davis	"
"	36.	Washington	William R. Julian	"
"	39.	Wetumpka	Thomas B. Whitby	J. W.
"	40.	Mobile	William S. Foster	W. M.
"	41.	Livingston	John Gideon Harris	"
"	43.	Leighton	Joseph M. Kumpe	"
"	44.	Gaston	John B. Lanford	"
"	46.	Harmony	James Milton	"
"	47.	Warren	Derril F. Duramus*	"
			Daniel B. Booth	S. W.
"	53.	Greening	Young M. Rabb*	W. M.
"	54.	Amity	James B. Head	"
"	55.	Mount Moriah	John H. Stinson	"
"	56.	Troy	Coleman N. Carpenter*	"
"	57.	Tuskegee	James Andrew Bilbro	"
			Jesse L. Adams	S. W.
			James E. Cobb*	J. W.
"	59.	Benton	John J. Steele	W. M.
"	62.	Saint John's	Isaiah A. Wilson	"
			James G. Cowan	S. W.
			Robert C. Jelks*	J. W.
"	63.	Social	John F. Harrison*	W. M.
			James B. Cox*	J. W.
"	64.	Eureka	James A. Reid	W. M.
"	65.	Liberty	John A. Ellerbe	S. W.
"	67.	Hampden Sidney	Andrew W. Rucker	W. M.
"	68.	Holsey	Sowell C. Woolfolk*	"
"	69.	Howard	Oliver S. Beers	"
			Peleg Brown*	S. W.
"	70.	Central	Isaac Johnson	"
"	71.	Tohopeka	James M. Oliver	"

*Proxies.

No.	72.	Widow's Son	George A. Barge	W. M.
"	74.	Solomon	William C. Bledsoe	J. W.
"	76.	Auburn	George P. Harrison Jr.	W. M.
"	78.	Crozier	John P. Ward*	S. W.
"	80.	Wilcox	Joseph B. McWilliams	W. M.
"	81.	Saint Stephens	Joseph C. Johnson*	"
"	82.	Bellefonte	Nelson Kyle	"
"	84.	Erophotic	Alfred H. Lee*	"
"	88.	Meridian Sun	James A. Wood	"
"	89.	Prattville	Lleuelyn Spigener	"
"	90.	Pfister	William B. Jackson Jr.	"
"	91.	Henry	William C. Oates*	"
"	95.	Danville	Jesse J. Woodall*	"
"	96.	Tuckabatchee	David D. Kent	"
"	97.	Lozahatchee	Robert R. Savage	J. W.
"	98.	Fulton	Philip Milhous	W. M.
"	99.	Salem	William M. Adams*	"
"	101.	Hartwell	Joshua Draper*	"
"	103.	Benson	James L. Williams	"
"	104.	Good Samaritan	Charles H. Sims	"
"	106.	Hermon	William O. Winston*	"
"	107.	Choctaw	Lemuel J. Mooney	"
"	108.	Oak Bowery	John T. Hester*	"
"	119.	Notasulga	Ralph T. Armstrong	S. W.
"	122.	Coffeeville	Thomas J. Cowan	W. M.
"	125.	Herndon	John W. Hardy	"
"	129.	Geneva	John F. Register	"
"	133.	Loachapoka	Wiley W. Bloodworth	"
			Louis T. Wimberly*	S. W.
"	134.	Wiley	Aaron W. Bean	W. M.
"	136.	Unity	Kossuth A. Mayer	"
"	145.	Fraternity	John M. Doyle	S. W.
"	148.	Cold Water	Michael Y. Hayes	W. M.
"	151.	Bladon Springs	George H. McKee	"
"	152.	Mount Jefferson	James R. Hodge	S. W.
"	153.	Monroeville	John W. Leslie*	W. M.
"	155.	Eastaboga	James M. Jackson*	"
"	157.	Somerville	William S. Simpson	J. W.
"	163.	Fayetteville Authentic	Kinion J. Thomas	W. M.
			William R. Phillips	S. W.
			Oliver P. Looney	J. W.
"	166.	Sumter	Charles F. Threadgill	W. M.
"	168.	Mount Hope	Benjamin F. McGanghey	"
"	171.	Clopton	John H. Weed	"
"	173.	Andrew Jackson	Stephen Henry Beasley	"
			John Gindrat Winter	S. W.
			Julius Tandy Glaze	J. W.
"	175.	Ezel	Oliver C. Rushton	"
"	176.	Davie	Charles Crawley	S. W.

*Proxies.

No.	181.	Aberfoil	Micaijah L. Stinson....W. M. Reuben B. Thornton*....S. W.
"	185.	Mount Eagle	Richard H. Hunt....W. M.
"	186.	Cataula	Elisha J. Robinson.... "
"	188.	Clintonville	Alfred McGee.... "
"	190.	Tombigbee	John W. Jones.... "
"	193.	High Log	George Stowers.... " Caleb R. Smith*....S. W.
"	195.	Opelika	William J. Samford....W. M.
"	197.	Hillabee	Martin G. Slaughter.... "
"	199.	Kilgee	Nathan Landers.... "
"	201.	Helicon	William H. Posey.... "
"	204.	Manning Spring	Charles McDade*.... "
"	206.	Moscow	Robert J. Redden.... " John H. Bankhead*.... S. W.
"	207.	Pettusville	Thomas Phillips.... " David W. Byers....J. W.
"	208.	Alexandria	Samuel D. McClelen....W. M.
"	209.	Marshall	Rufus K. Boyd.... "
"	210.	Ebenezer	Thomas Swanson....S. W.
"	211.	York	John B. Shields....W. M.
"	212.	Putnam	Francis M. Handley.... "
"	213.	Euclid	William H. Pruitt*.... "
"	218.	Sam Dixon	Reuben T. Ewing.... "
"	222.	Western Star	Isaac R. McElroy jr.... "
"	223.	Sandy Ridge	John C. Fonville....S. W.
"	224.	Newton	Joseph A. Adams....J. W.
"	225.	Louisville	Christopher C. Lee....W. M.
"	226.	Santa Fe	Lamartine O. Hicks.... "
"	227.	James Penn	William H. Stuckey.... "
"	228.	Dallas	Kinchen Morris.... "
"	233.	Sepulga	Walter C. Bennett....S. W.
"	235.	Harpersville	William A. O'Hara....W. M.
"	238.	Fairmount	Augustus W. Deen.... "
"	241.	Bowen	Theodore Tiedeman.... "
"	242.	Coosa	Isaac C. Hall.... "
"	243.	Ramer	Anthony H. Sellers.... " James L. Soles....S. W. George S. Turnipseed....J. W.
"	244.	Dawson	Joseph S. Sanders....W. M.
"	248.	Lawrence	Newell M. Thornton.... "
"	249.	Toluca	Charles G. Jones*.... " Wiley M. Penn....J. W.
"	250.	Amand	Moses D. Pinson....W. M. William N. Jones*....S. W.
"	254.	Quitman	Michael F. Fail.... "
"	256.	Gaylesville	Leonidas D. Griffitts*....W. M.
"	258.	Randolph	Hiram M. Hays.... "
"	260.	Belleville	Anthony D. Sampy.... "

*Proxies.

No.	261.	Talladega	James H. Joiner	W. M.
			Myles J. Greene*	S. W.
			Joseph H. Johnson*	J. W.
"	262.	Highland	Robert F. Johnson	W. M.
"	267.	Wind Creek	John Y. Johnston	"
"	270.	Butler Spring	Thomas H. Barge	"
"	272.	Clifton	Floyd E. Crum*	"
"	274.	Paint Rock	Jeptha N. Scott*	"
"	275.	Frankfort	Amos L. Moody	"
"	276.	Bullock	William B. Colquett	"
"	280.	Springville	Andrew J. Nunnelly	"
"	285.	Georgiana	Pinkney M. Bruner	"
"	286.	Walker	Charles Drennen	"
"	287.	Clinton	Levy Wilkinson	"
"	290.	Gillespie	Jonas Webb	"
"	291.	Fort Deposit	Thomas Blake	S. W.
"	305.	Central City	George R. Boyd	W. M.
"	330.	Forkland	Milton W. Hand	S. W.
"	331.	Charity	Micaijah C. Thomas	"
"	332.	Blue Eye	Thomas J. Brewer	W. M.
"	334.	Oliver	Horatio C. Grayson	"
"	335.	Nanafalia	Albert G. Westbrook	J. W.
"	337.	Johnson	John D. Massey	W. M.
			James M. Horn	S. W.
"	339.	Albert Pike	William C. Wheeler	"
"	341.	Ragan	David Cornelius Wright*	W. M.
"	343.	Summit	George M. Bledsoe	S. W.
"	345.	Echo	William H. Stuckey*	W. M.
"	346.	Hurtville	Malichi L. Long	"
			Edward N. Brown*	S. W.
"	348.	Bienville	William Thomas Walthall	W. M.
"	349.	Ozark	Needham Hughes	S. W.
"	351.	Wilson Williams	James T. Holland	"
"	353.	Rock Mills	George W. Taylor	W. M.
"	355.	Van Buren	Solon E. Heard	"
"	357.	Rutledge	John A. Padgett	"
"	360.	Newtonville	Zachariah Savage	S. W.
"	361.	Town Creek	Alexander P. Odom	W. M.
"	363.	Chester	Secretary W. Chappell	"
"	364.	Pleasant Site	David M. McMurray	"
"	366.	Cotaco	Isaac M. Jackson	S. W.
"	368.	Cross Plains	Jacob F. Dailey*	W. M.
			Alexander McCollister	S. W.
"	369.	Athelstan	William G. Little	"
"	374.	Lodor	Charles L. Williams	W. M.
"	375.	Gainesville	Edward N. Kring	"
"	377.	Lake City	Alexander McSwain	"
"	378.	Weogufka	James T. Thompson	"
"	381.	E. H. Cook	John H. Malone	"
			Jasper C. Mixon*	S. W.

*Proxies.

No. 384.	Birmingham Fraternal..	James M. Ware*.....	W. M.
" 385.	Munford	Joseph E. Camp.....	S. W.
" 387.	Blue Spring.....	Thomas S. Stapleton.....	W. M.
" 389.	Vernon	George S. Ernest*.....	"
" 392.	Hickory Flat.....	Andrew J. Thompson.....	"
" 394.	Valley Head.....	James M. Price.....	"
" 395.	Opelika	Isaac Heyman.....	"
" 398.	Hartselle	Andrew A. Odem*.....	"
" 402.	Green Hill.....	Henry A. Killen.....	"
" 405.	Mineral Spring.....	William M. Chambles.....	S. W.
" 406.	Doric	Thomas J. McCluskey*.....	W. M.
" 407.	North River.....	Isaac M. Whitney.....	"
" 408.	Hillsboro'.....	Benjamin M. Simpson.....	"
" 410.	Helena.....	Rufus W. Cobb*.....	"
" 411.	Jemison	Joel M. Smitherman.....	"
		Azariah C. Ward.....	J. W.
" 412.	Amberson	Singleton B. Ramsey.....	S. W.
" 416.	Williamsburg.....	John E. Williams*.....	"

*Proxies.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was opened in Due Form.

Prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The M. W. Grand Master's address was read by the R. W. Grand Secretary, and on motion of Brother Wilson Williams, it was referred to a special committee of three, consisting of—

Past Grand Masters:

Wilson Williams,
Joseph H. Johnson,
Isaiah A. Wilson.

GRAND MASTER'S ANNUAL ADDRESS.

BRETHREN:

No greater pleasure could I have experienced than that of greeting so many of you at the opening of our Grand Lodge; but this is denied to me, and I shall have to meet you later in the session.

I am happy to say to you that to me there appears to be a better dawning for Masonry in this State. Fewer new Lodges have, to be sure, been formed; but on the other hand, some of those which had become dormant have been recalled to life and vigor; and better still, fewer, very much fewer, appeals from the judgments of the Lodges have been taken to this communication than usual. Indeed none until with the last few days. These disclosed oftentimes a mass of moral turpitude, and their absence proves that such unworthy members have been pretty thoroughly weeded out, and the hope may now be entertained that a greater degree of moral elevation may be attained under the teachings of our beautiful degrees.

In addition to the foregoing, I would also mention that fewer questions involving any intricacy have been submitted to your Grand Master for his decision. This betokens a more thoughtful and intelligent administration of the affairs of the several lodges by their Worshipful Masters.

Having been officially notified by M. W. Grand Master Xenophon Ry-

land, of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, of the death of our Grand Representative near that Grand Lodge, R. W. Brother George Frank Gouley, also the Grand Secretary of that Grand Lodge, I immediately wrote expressing my own, and your, deep sympathy with the Grand Lodge and Masons of Missouri, and with the family of the deceased, in this sudden and appalling bereavement.

Subsequently I commissioned R. W. Brother James E. Cadle, P. G. M., of Missouri, as our Representative near that Grand Lodge. Commissions have also been issued to the following brethren as Representatives of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama near the Grand Lodges respectively specified—

R. W. Robert B. Fraser to Nova Scotia.

" Frank Burkett to Mississippi.

" Samuel B. Harman to Canada.

Brother Henry A. Woolf has been commissioned as the R. W. Representative of the Grand Lodge of Canada near this Grand Lodge, and will doubtless be received and greeted by you as such.

Dispensations

Have been issued for the formation of the following Lodges, *viz*—

To James Hilton and others for a Lodge at Blooming Grove, Walker Co., to be called Hilton Lodge, on March 15th.

To Arnold Shamblin and others for a Lodge at Broomtown, Cherokee Co., to be called Broomtown Lodge, on May 4th.

To Richard H. L. Whorton and others for a Lodge at Cullman, Cullman Co., to be called Cullman Fraternal Lodge, July 19th.

To Thomas B. Clark and others for a Lodge at Shorterville, Henry Co., to be called Shorterville Lodge, Aug. 22.

To William D. Sartor and others for a Lodge at Clanton, Chilton Co., to be called Clanton Lodge, Aug. 23d.

Also dispensations to the following Lodges, to continue until the present communication of the Grand Lodge, they having forfeited their charters by reason of non-representation, and non-payment of their dues for the constitutional period, but having paid up their dues to the Grand

Secretary and made such representations as to induce the belief that Masonry would be advanced.

To Gaston Lodge No. 44.

To Bullock Lodge No. 276.

To Sycamore Lodge No. 328.

To Santa Fe Lodge No. 226.

To Tallassee Lodge No. 237.

As no report was made by the Committee on Dispensations on the return of Sulphur Springs Lodge, No. 414, nor on its application for a charter, I continued the dispensation to this Grand Lodge, believing that the silence of the Committee was an over-sight, and hope it will meet your approval.

I also granted a Dispensation to Cold Water Lodge No. 148 to remove from Green Pond to Vance's, being satisfied after full inquiry, that the interests of the Lodge and of Masonry would be subserved, and that there would be no infringement upon the constitutional rights of any other Lodge.

To Bradford Lodge No. 138 to move to Kellyton, after being satisfied that it would probably be for the good of the Lodge.

To Mt. Jefferson Lodge No. 152 to remove to Shady Grove Church, 4 miles distant from its former location.

To Ohatchee Lodge to remove to Peck's Hill, 4 miles, for satisfactory reasons.

I granted a Dispensation to Mobile Lodge No. 40 to hold election for officers, the constitutional period having past.

Also, to Newburgh Lodge No. 388 to elect a J. W. in consequence of the death of our worthy Brother J. H. McClelland, J. W.

Missouri Lodge No. 146 having "failed to assemble for work for the space of six months," thereby forfeiting its charter under the provision of the Constitution, I gave to it a Dispensation to continue work, and also to elect officers out of time, hoping thereby to revive the Lodge. It will show its condition at this Grand Lodge.

To Rising Sun Lodge No. 29 to elect a W. M., the brother elected to that office at the proper time being inelligible and not installed.

To those Lodges which had forfeited their charters, I recommend their restoration if they give evidence of their ability to maintain themselves in the future.

Granted a Dispensation to W. Brother Samuel C. Nabors, of Yorkville Lodge No. 131, to lay the corner stone of Court House at Carrollton, which was done with Masonic ceremonies.

I refused a Dispensation to confer the degrees out of time, because I am satisfied that neither Masonry nor the applicants are to be benefitted thereby.

I received a communication from M. W. Brother E. Edmundson, G. M. of Tennessee, suggesting the propricty of our two Grand Lodges mutually extending to the Lodges of each the right to make Masons of the citizens living within the jurisdiction of the other. To this I replied by citing the frequent enunciation of an opposite policy by the Grand Lodge of Alabama, but now draw the attention of the Grand Lodge thereto, that it may, if it deems it proper, review its policy, though this I do not think advisable.

M. W. Brother J. P. C. Cottrill, G. M. of Wisconsin, addressed me, claiming that Leighton Lodge No. 43, of Alabama, had violated the rights of a Lodge in Wisconsin, in having made a Mason of a citizen of Wisconsin, who had been rejected by that Lodge. Upon inquiry, it appeared that the petitioner had resided a year or more in Alabama, claimed at the time citizenship here, and that Leighton Lodge was ignorant of his having been rejected in Wisconsin. This explanation M. W. Grand Master Cottrill accepted, and our jurisdictions are still completely harmonious. This, however, suggests the necessity of the Grand Lodge issuing an edict requiring every Lodge to insert in its petition for initiation, a statement to be signed by petitioner, to the effect that he has, or has not, been rejected by any other Lodge, which I recommend.

If you will look at the reports of Committees on Chartered Lodges, you will be doubtless amazed at the frequency of the statement, that there are no seals, or that they are undistinguishable. This should not be. The Constitution requires that every Lodge shall have a seal, and this willful violation of this instrument argues badly for the consistency of the

Lodges. The Grand Lodge should not be satisfied with this reiterated statement by the Committees only, but should compel obedience to the Constitution.

Most of the questions propounded during the past year have been of easy solution, a reference to the proceedings of some previous year being sufficient. Yet there are a few of the rulings which I deem should be brought to your attention.

Ruled—

That charges having been submitted to a Lodge, could not be withdrawn, though if the Brother making the charges, becomes satisfied that they are without foundation, a statement so made in open Lodge by him would warrant the Lodge, as a court, in dismissing the case.

That an officer, like a member, must be suspended, if he be in arrears for two years dues, on the meeting immediately preceding the anniversary of Saint John the Baptist, and that if not done at that time, it cannot be done at any subsequent communication. The remedy being extraordinary, and the law providing that time only, it should be strictly complied with.

That an unaffiliated Mason may be tried by any Lodge within whose jurisdiction he may reside, and if his residence be unknown by the Lodge within whose jurisdiction the offense was committed.

That although a Lodge may have had no meeting during six months, except once for the trial of a member, this constituted a meeting within the Constitution, and its charter was thereby saved.

A Brother prosecuting has the right to close.

Every member present in good standing has the right to vote, he alone being the judge if his relations to the accused forbid it.

The vote of the Lodge should be taken by call of the roll, on all questions as to guilt, or assessment of punishment, and the W. M. must vote.

That a Lodge may remit the dues of one suspended for non-payment of dues and restore him to fellowship.

That public meetings, balls, &c., cannot be tolerated in a Masonic Hall.

Allow me to draw your attention to the following questions, and that of the Committee on Jurisprudence, for action; and I am induced to do this

because I found myself compelled to rule against my better judgment, because of Rule 19, Art. VII., of the Constitution, although I felt assured that the framers of that instrument did not contemplate its application to cases of definite suspension, it being only a very severe reprimand:

A Brother being tried, is found guilty, and suspended for a definite period; he takes an appeal to the Grand Lodge, and the appeal is sustained before the termination of the period of suspension. What is the position of this Brother in relation to his Lodge? The Brother presenting the certificate of the Grand Secretary, of the action of the Grand Lodge, applied for membership to another Lodge, *can he be elected?*

And now, Brethren, as I am about to lay down the emblems of authority with which your too partial estimate invested me, but for the necessary length of this address, I would have indulged in some reflections and suggestions which to me appear of interest. This, however, I must forego for the reasons already given. I cannot, however, forbear expressing the thanks I feel to the Brethren for their uniform courtesy and kindness, and to the Grand Secretary for the aid so cheerfully extended to me in all matters wherein an appeal to his office became necessary.

P. J. PILLANS, *Grand Master.*

The Grand Treasurer made his Annual Report, and it was received and referred to the Committee on Finance. *(See Appendix.)*

The Grand Secretary made his Annual Report, and it was received and referred to the Committee on Finance. *(See Appendix.)*

The Grand Secretary made report on the fund for the relief of the sufferers by the Saint John's fire, and it was received and referred to the Committee on Finance.

LETTER FROM P. G. M. NORRIS.

The Grand Secretary read a letter from P. G. M. George D. Norris, regretting his inability to be present

charters of which had been forfeited on account of non-representation for two years, and which had paid up all dues and were represented, were reinstated.

Brother Young M. Rabb offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

DUPLICATE REPORTS.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to furnish Duplicate Grand Lodge Reports to the subordinate Lodges.

The Brother Grand Secretary offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

NEW CHARTERS GRANTED.

Resolved, That a new charter be granted to Pfister Lodge No. 90, and also to Bethel Lodge No. 140, the charter of the former having been lost, and that of the latter destroyed by fire. Both free of charge.

Brother Wilson Williams, from the Committee on the Grand Master's Address, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in.

REPORT ON GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee, to whom was referred the address of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, beg leave to submit the following report—

We find the very able address of the Most Worshipful Grand Master replete with general Masonic information, well worthy the especial care and investigation of every Mason within this jurisdiction; and in order that the various matters therein referred to may be properly considered by this Grand Lodge, we make the following recommendations:

1. That so much of the address as refers to the commissioning of Representatives of other Grand Lodges near this, be referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

2. That so much as refers to the granting of Dispensations to form new Lodges, be referred to the Committee on Dispensations.

3. That so much as refers to Masonic decisions, and the decisions of the Grand Master, be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

4. That so much as refers to the propounding of certain questions to each candidate before his initiation, be referred to the Committee on Work.

5. Your Committee are of the opinion, that the decision of the Grand Master in regard to giving jurisdiction to Lodges in the State of Tennessee, to make Masons of citizens residing in Alabama, is the correct construction and theory of our Constitution, and we see no reason why we should depart from it.

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted,

WILSON WILLIAMS,
JOSEPH H. JOHNSON,
ISAIAH A. WILSON,
Committee.

The trustees of the *Permanent Trust Fund* made the following report, and the report was received and referred to the Committee on Finance. *(See Appendix.)*

On motion of the Brother Grand Secretary, all papers, memorials, petitions, &c., were directed to be handed to the several committees to which they belonged without being brought to the attention of the Grand Lodge.

The following were announced as the regular

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Chartered Lodges.

No. 1.

Alexander McCollister,
Ralph T. Armstrong,
Hiram M. Hayes,
Isaac Heyman,
John A. Padgett.

No. 2.

Stephen Henry Beasley,
George R. Boyd,
Theodore Tiedemann,
William W. McCollum,
Solon E. Heard.

No. 3.

Milton W. Hand, George S. Ernest,
Charles Drennen, Needham Hughes.
Christopher C. Lee,

No. 4.

William J. Samford, Alexander McSwain,
William B. Colquett, Thomas J. Brewer.
Joel M. Smitherman,

No. 5.

William A. O'Hara, Llewelyn Spigener,
Thomas H. Barge, Young M. Rabb.
Kossuth A. Meyer,

No. 6.

Martin G. Slaughter, Nelson Kyle,
James R. Hodge, William R. Julian.
Aaron W. Bean,

No. 7.

Anthony H. Sellers, John P. Ward,
William S. Simpson, Foster B. Terrell.
William M. Adams,

No. 8.

Isaac C. Hall, James M. Oliver,
John H. Weed, George Stowers.
David D. Kent,

No. 9.

John A. Foster, Kinion J. Thomas,
John J. Steele, Charles Crawley.
Jesse L. Woodall,

No. 10.

Philip Milhous, Jesse L. Adams,
John A. Ellerbe, Thomas Blake.
Richard H. Hunt,

ON DISPENSATIONS.

No. 1.

Elisha J. Robinson, John W. Leslie,
Coleman N. Carpenter, Thomas Phillips.
Joshua Draper,

No. 2.

DeWitt Clinton White,
Sowell C. Woolfolk,
Charles H. Sims,
Alfred McGee,
Nathan Landers.

On Finance.

Oliver S. Beers,
Edward N. Kring,
William C. Wheeler,
James A. Read,
Sam Thompson.

On By-Laws.

James B. Head,
William G. Little,
John W. Hardy,
Benjamin F. Davis,
Benjamin L. Allen.

On Propositions and Grievances.

Joseph Winthrop Moses,
Joseph M. Kumpe,
George P. Harrison Jr.,
Francis P. M. Gilbert,
John M. Doyle.

Doings of Grand Officers.

Benjamin F. McGaughey,
Alfred H. Lee,
John F. Register,
John T. Hester,
Michael Y. Hayes.

On Leave of Absence.

William S. Foster,
William B. Jackson Jr.,
Wiley W. Bloodworth,
John B. Lanford,
Reuben T. Ewing.

Brother William B. Wood, from the Special Committee on the death of Brother, P. G. M., James McCaleb Wiley, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

DEATH OF PAST GRAND MASTER WILEY.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee appointed to prepare resolutions appropriate on the death of Past Grand Master James McCaleb Wiley, beg leave to report the following:

WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge of Alabama, having received the sad intelligence of the death of Most Worshipful Past Grand Master, James McCaleb Wiley, who departed this life, at his residence, in Troy, on Sunday, December 2d, 1877; and *whereas*, our deceased Brother having, for nearly a half century, exemplified by his upright walk and blameless character, the principles of truth, love, and charity, as taught in the solemn ceremonies and obligations of our Order, and who, by an enthusiastic devotion to Masonry, not surpassed by any of his cotemporaries, gave proof of the sincerity of his profession, and his unwavering faith in the teachings of Masonry to promote peace and good will among men; and *whereas*, for thirty-six years, without intermission, he faithfully attended the annual communications of this Grand Lodge, and during that period, filled most of the positions of official dignity with credit and honor, and by his experience and wise counsels contributing largely towards shaping its edicts and promoting its prosperity, and having twice been elected Grand Master, receiving and wearing with becoming dignity the highest honors which his brethren could bestow, full of years and crowded with honors, loved and venerated, he has passed away, we trust, to a seat above the starry-decked heavens, where all true Masons hope at last to arrive.

To commemorate his virtues and as a testimony of our esteem for him, this Grand Lodge now, in this its most solemn proceeding, pays its last sad tribute of respect to the worthy dead, and resolves:

1st. That Past Grand Master James McCaleb Wiley was, in all the elements which constitute "a true and trusty Mason," eminently such; by his life he adorned the noble and holy principles of our order; and his death, though occurring in the ripeness of age, produces feelings of profound grief in the hearts of his brethren, who realize the severing of those tender ties of brotherhood which had bound us together for so many long years.

2d. His memory shall be perpetuated upon our records and kept alive in our hearts; his virtues shall be cherished by his brethren—his faults covered with the mantle of charity; his name shall go down to future generations as a light in our masonic temple, and occupy a prominent place upon the roll of those distinguished worthies who have been honored by their brothers with the highest gifts of official dignity whilst they lived, and with a sincere and heartfelt tribute of respect when they died.

3d. That a tablet upon the records of this Grand Lodge be appropriated to his memory, whereon shall be inscribed his name and age, the day of his death, the various offices which he has filled in this Grand Lodge, and these resolutions.

4th. And as a further mark of respect and grief, that the seat of the Grand Master be draped in mourning during the remainder of the session of this Grand Lodge.

Respectfully submitted,

W. B. WOOD,
Chairman.

And then, after prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until this evening at 7 o'clock.

IN GRAND LODGE.

TUESDAY EVENING, December 4, 1877.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 7 o'clock, the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, Henry Clay Armstrong, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

Prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The minutes were read and approved.

Brother DeWitt C. White, from the Committee on Dispensations No. 2, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in. :

REPORT ON DISPENSATIONS NO. 2.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Dispensations No. 2 beg leave to report that they have examined the minutes of

Broomtown	No. 420	Shorterville	No. 422
Cullman Fraternal	" 421	Clanton	" 423

They find these minutes uniformly well and neatly kept. In fact, their records will compare favorably with those of older and more experienced lodges.

To all these lodges they recommend that charters be granted, except to Shorterville No. 422, and at the request of that lodge a continuance of its Dispensation is recommended.

Fraternally submitted,

D. C. WHITE,
Chairman.

Brother William Y. Titcomb, from the Committee on Suspensions, Expulsions, and Appeals, made the following report, and the report was disposed of as noted at the bottom of each case. And then the whole report was concurred in.

SUSPENSIONS, EXPULSIONS, AND APPEALS.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Alahama:

The Committee, on Suspensions, Expulsions, and Appeals, respectfully submits the following report:

That a healthier tone pervades the fraternity in this jurisdiction is hopefully inferred from the small number of appeals which have been put in your committee's hands. Those cases have received consideration as follows:

Appeal from Blue Eye Lodge No. 332.

1st. An appeal from the decision of Blue Eye Lodge No. 332 which expelled W. D. McCargo under charges and specifications presently to be stated. This case came up on the heel of Grand Communication last year, being too late for the report of that year, hence the delay until the present time.

McCargo appealed from the Lodge's decision under charges as follows:

Charge—"*Unmasonic Conduct.*"

"*Specification 1st.*—In that he forced brothers A. W. Bell and J. R. Sims to accept, as settlement in full for amounts due them from him, sums amounting to not more than fifty cents on the dollar, whilst he—McCargo—had in his possession means apply sufficient to pay them in full, thus wronging and defrauding them of their just dues, in violation of his duty as a Mason.

"*Specification 2d.*—In that he induced Brother Burns to work for him on a credit without requiring security, by falsely representing that his property was unincumbered and subject to the payment of his debts."

Specification 3d.—In that the said W. D. McCargo did, on the 21st day of March, 1876, make oath, falsely, to a certain affidavit, which affidavit was in reference to a certain judgment rendered in the circuit court of

Talladega Co., Ala., against the said W. D. McCargo, and in favor of Bro. Jesse Hardin.

A patient examination of the transcript of proceedings at McCargo's trial, leaves your committee of opinion that the Lodge's action in said case was just. Although a paper, containing interrogatories and answers of three persons, who testify in behalf of the accused, is referred to in the certified transcript, and is in some particulars in conflict with other testimony. Yet that document, were it duly authorized, would not materially change our opinion.

We recommend that the decision of Blue Eye Lodge No. 332, expelling W. D. McCargo from all the rights and benefits of Masonry, be sustained.

Report concurred in.

Appeal from Shiloh Lodge No. 105.

Appeal of S. S. Strickland from the decision of Shiloh Lodge No. 105, which dismissed from trial, with a reprimand, Brother Jos. E. Smyley, against whom Brother S. S. Strickland had preferred charges for unmasonic conduct, with specifications intended to show that Brother Smyley had acted dishonestly in a business transaction with Brother Strickland, and that Brother Smyley had given encouragement to theft.

The Lodge voted Smyley not guilty, under the specifications, but, on motion, decided that he should suffer a penalty of a reprimand for "drinking too much." The evidence shows that Strickland met Smyley in Lodge habitually for four or five years, after the alleged fraudulent transaction—at least that he (Strickland) desisted, for that term of years, from preferring charges against Smyley—until, upon an occasion, the two Brothers had a disagreement about some "lands." The testimony of several brethren exculpated Brother Smyly under the charge of dishonesty.

The accuser in this case preferred charges, and took an appeal as a *dimitted* Mason.

In regard to this matter, your committee recommends the adoption of the following resolutions, viz:

1st. That the Grand Lodge take no action on the appeal of S. S. Strickland.

2d. That there be adopted an edict declaring in unmistakable terms whether or not the right of appeal from the decision of any Lodge is possessed by any other than active member of said Lodge.

It will be remembered that three years ago, the Grand Lodge sustained this committee in its opinion that the Master of Charles Baskerville

Lodge No. 281 could not take an appeal from the decision of another Lodge; thus *intimating* that in Rule 13, ART, VII of the constitution, the words, "any brother feeling aggrieved, &c," were to be construed as comprehending *none outside* of the particular Lodge, from whose decision an appeal might be taken. But in the second resolution now recommended for adoption your committee asks the Gand Lodge to make a declaration of the meaning of ART. VII R. 13, so plain that it will be impossible for the brethren to err in regard to it.

Report concurred in, and recommendation referred to Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

APPEAL FROM GOOD SAMARITAN LODGE No. 104.

Appeal of Samuel C. Dailey from the decision of Good Samaritan Lodge No. 104, which indefinitely suspended said S. C. Dailey under the following charges and specifications, to-wit:

CHARGE—*Unmasonic Conduct.*

Specification 1st.—In that the said S. C. Dailey, Secretary of said Lodge from 1872 to 1876, did use for his own private purposes ninety-seven dollars belonging to said Lodge.

Specification 2d.—In that said S. C. Dailey did refuse to refund that money, and used his influence to prevent his securities and others from paying it.

Specification 3d.—In that said S. C. Dailey did, in reference to the above matter, use defiant and contemptuous language toward the Lodge.

In the opinion of your committee the case is made out against Dailey, through the evidence brought to bear. It is with deep regret that your committee passes upon offences committed by a brother whose years are past three score and ten, but while saddened by the peculiar circumstances of this case, we feel compelled to recommend that the decision of Good Samaritan Lodge No. 104, in the case of S. C. Dailey, be sustained.

Report concurred in.

The representatives of Subordinate Lodges now assembled in this hall, are fraternally, but earnestly requested to pay especial attention to the following statement on the part of this committee: A great amount of unnecessary trouble and annoyance is entailed upon the committee on Appeals, by a disregard, in many Subordinate Lodges, of edicts and decisions relating to Appeals. It would seem that in some Lodges there could be no knowledge of the existence of such a book as the MASONIC

CODE OF ALABAMA, but for the fact that the Grand Secretary, long ago, supplied every Lodge with requisite information respecting that work. We are forced to the conclusion that one of two opinions must be entertained in this regard, *viz:* either that some of the brethren consider the CODE as a mere ornament not to be handled, of whose contents they have, and care to have, no personal knowledge, or, that in one particular, they treat that invaluable guide with sovereign contempt.

Appeals should be accompanied by transcripts in the Secretary's hand, neatly made out, and the whole fastened together in proper order.

We recommend that the Grand Lodge give more forcible expression to Edict 21, Page 73 of the CODE, by making it *mandatory*, instead of declaring that its terms "should" be complied with, and further that it be *specified* as the duty of Masters of Lodges to see to it that all the requirements of said edict are observed.

WILLIAM Y. TITCOMB,
Chairman.

REPORT ON THE M. M. DEGREE.

Brother James M. Brundige, from the Committee on Work, made report on the M. M. Degree, and the report was received and concurred in

Brother George P. Harrison Jr., from a special committee, made the following report, and the report was received and ordered to be filed, and the committee discharged.

OPELIKA LODGE NO. 195.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee in whose charge was placed certain property belonging to Opelika Lodge No. 195, prior to the forfeiture of its charter, beg leave to report that upon satisfactory evidence furnished them, that the resolution adopted by your body at its last session (see proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Alabama 1876, p. 52,) had been complied with by the payment "of the debts existing against said Lodge at the time its charter was forfeited"—that they gave an order to Opelika Lodge No. 395, in whose custody said property had been left for safe keeping, to deliver the same to Opelika Lodge No. 195.

There being no further duties devolving upon them, your committee respectfully ask to be discharged.

Fraternally submitted.

GEO. P. HARRISON JR.,
Chairman.

Brother Joseph Win Moses, from the Committee on Propositions and Grievances, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON PROPOSITIONS AND GRIEVANCES.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Propositions and Grievances beg leave to report as follows:

BENSON LODGE No. 103.

Your committee find from the facts set forth in this petition, and the evidence of Brother Williams, W. M. of Benson Lodge No. 103, that the removal of the Lodge from Maplesville to Maplesville Depot will not only inure to the benefit of Benson Lodge No. 103, but to the advancement of the fraternity generally. The committee therefore recommend that the Grand Lodge grant the petition of Benson Lodge No. 103.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOS. WIN. MOSES,
Chairman.

Brother John A. Foster, from Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 9, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 9.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 9, beg leave to report that they have examined the returns submitted to them, and find the following

CORRECT:

Town Creek	No. 361	Lake City—2 years	" 377
Chester	" 363	Ben Pope—2 years	" 383
Pleasant Site	" 364	Birmingham Fraternal	" 384
Chandler	" 367	Trinity	" 386
Cross Plains	" 368	Blue Spring	" 387
Athelstan	" 369	Newburgh	" 388
Bell's Landing	" 373	Vernon—2 years	" 389
Lodor	" 374	Weathers	" 390
Sauta Creek	" 376		

INCORRECT:

COTACO No. 366.—Initials used, members not numbered, number of members not set down under the head of "Dues," table of "Fees" not filled out, nor the year A. L.; under the head of "Degrees Conferred" no attention paid to instructions, returns one "rejected," but no name given.

GAINESVILLE, No. 375.—The Secretary has *added* a column for Dues at the end of each name, which the printed form does not require.

E. H. COOK No. 381.—Initials used.

MUNFORD No. 385.—Returns correct except that the word *none* is omitted under the head of "Degrees Conferred."

Your Committee have found some of the returns which are reported as correct to be wanting in neatness, and with erasures and interlineations. Your Committee also find that in several of the returns where the directions require the numbers to be in figures, they are in letters; and we recommend the Secretaries to conform strictly to the directions in the printed blank returns.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

JOHN A. FOSTER,
Chairman.

Brother William A. O'Hara, from Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 5, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 5.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 5, beg leave to make the fol-

lowing report. They have carefully examined the returns submitted to them, and find the following

CORRECT:

Aberfoil	No. 181	Caledonia	No. 198
Mount Eagle	" 185	Sylacauga	" 200
Clintonville	" 188	Valley	" 203
Tombigbee	" 190	Alexandria	" 208
Brush Creek	" 191	Marshall	" 209
High Log	" 193	Ebenezer	" 210
Opelika	" 195		

INCORRECT:

DAVIE No. 176.—The name of the Secretary attesting the return for 1876 not given, his name is not among the members, and no dues paid for him; due the Grand Lodge 50 cents, seal illegible. The Returns of 1877 show an improvement on the preceding year, but seal still illegible.

MOUNT HILLIARD No. 180.—Master's name signed in the wrong place, seal crank-sided.

CATAULA No. 186.—Correct in form and neatly made out, but the Secretary has crowded two years proceedings into one blank, and in doing so has placed the names of dead members on the list of living ones, in order to report their dues for the year 1876; he has also placed $1.00 opposite the name of each of its members as dues to the Grand Lodge instead of 50 cents. Your committee respectfully suggest that the Secretary be furnished with blanks to make proper returns to the Grand Lodge as soon as possible.

CHATTAHOOCHEE No. 192.—Table of Fees improperly filled out, recapitulation not filled out, no date to the attestation.

HILLABEE No. 197.—The Secretary has improperly added to the blank a column for amount of dues, and has not filled up the table for dues and fees, no date to one reinstatement and one dimittal, initials used to several names, name of lodge not indorsed on the back.

KILIGEE No. 199.—Name of the lodge not indorsed on the back, seal illegible.

HELICON No. 201.—Returns for two years, and in those for 1877 the Secretary has improperly added a column for dues, which has been left off of all the new forms because unnecessary, in neither year is the Recapitulation filled out.

MANNING SPRING No. 204.—Members improperly numbered.

Moscow No. 206.—In the returns for 1876 the Secretary having discovered that he had omitted one name, makes a note of it instead of adding it to the list. In the table of Fees he puts down the price of Initiation at $10, when the constitution requires that it shall not be less than $15. Lodge Dues are set down at $48, when they are only $2.

Pettusville No. 207.—No seal.

York, No. 211.—A very good return except that in several names initials are used, contrary to instructions.

Putnam No. 212.—Table of Dues and Fees not filled out.

Euclid No. 213.—Returns badly made up, two years being crowded into one. Returns ought to have been made out in full for 1877, and the dues for 1876 added on the outside. Instead of which the dues are counted up in the table of dues at $1, instead of 50 cents. No Junior Deacon *pro tem.* put down according to instructions, that officer having dimitted. Also, the S. W. has been allowed to dimit contrary to law, members erroneously numbered.

Builders No. 215.—Table of Fees not filled out, nor the year A. L., seal illegible.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

WILLIAM A. O'HARA,
Chairman.

Brother William Y. Titcomb offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

DUES OF TUSKEGEE NO. 57 REMITTED.

Resolved,, That Tuskegee Lodge No. 57 having had its hall, furniture, jewels, &c., destroyed by fire on the 3d instant, and having lost every thing except its bible and charter, therefore its dues for the present year are hereby remitted.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

On motion of Brother Oliver S. Beers it was resolved that the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence have time to finish up his report until the Grand Secretary is ready for the printer.

And then after prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow morning at 10½ o'clock.

IN GRAND LODGE.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, December 5, 1877.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 10½ o'clock, the M. W. Grand Master, Palmer J. Pillans, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

Prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The minutes were read and approved.

Brother Milton W. Hand, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 3, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 3.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 3 beg leave to make the following report. They have carefully examined the returns submitted to them, and find the following

CORRECT:

Lozahatchee	No.	97	Oak Bowery	No.	108
Fulton	"	98	Perryville	"	117
Salem	"	99	Notasulga	"	119
Hartwell	"	101	Havana	"	123
Benson	"	103	Herndon	"	125
Good Samaritan	"	104	Mortimer Reeder	"	126
Shiloh	"	105	Geneva	"	129
Hermon	"	106	Yorkville	"	131
Choctaw	"	107	Wiley	"	134

INCORRECT.

TUCKABATCHEE No. 96.—Report shows none rejected, recapitulation shows one, date A. L. not filled out, Lodge Dues per annum are put down in one place at $1, and under the head of fees at $17, affiliation fee is put down in one place at $2, and under the head of fees $4, seal illegible.

FOREST HILL No. 110.—No date to one reinstatement.

MIDWAY No. 114.—Only 9 members reported and dues paid for 11, Affiliation fee is put down *none* under the head of *fees* when it is in fact $2, same error committed as to Grand Lodge dues.

CAMP HILL No. 120.—Table of Fees not filled out, Lodge dues put down in one place at 50 cents and in another at $1.

COFFEEVILLE No. 122.—Seal illegible.

LOACHAPOKA No. 133.—Return defaced by erasures, seal illegible.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

M. W. HAND,
Chairman.

Brother Alexander McCollister, from Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 1, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 1.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama.

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 1 respectfully submit that they have examined the returns referred to them, and find the following

CORRECT:

Macon	No. 7	Selma Fraternal	No. 27
Farrar	" 8	Marengo	" 28
Royal White Hart	" 10	Wetumpka	" 39
Montgomery	" 11	Mobile	" 40
Marion	" 12	Livingston	" 41
Florence	" 14	Hiram	" 42
Athens	" 16	Gaston	" 44
Saint Albans	" 22	Harmony	" 46
Dale	" 25	Warren	" 47

INCORRECT.

ALABAMA No. 3.—Name, number, and year not filled out in the caption;

amount of dues added to each name which is not provided for or intended by the form ; seal clumsily put on and illegible.

RISING VIRTUE No. 4.—Number not indorsed on the back, claims one M. G. but does not designate him, returns show two initiated, recapitulation shows but one, no date to attestation.

MOULTON No. 6.—Sixty-one members footed up $31 50, over paid one dollar; table of Fees includes the whole amount received during the year, instead of the amount charged each candidate for initiation, passing, and raising; also the whole amount of lodge dues received during the year, evidently a misconception of requirements, it should be simply the amount charged to each member. Due the Grand Lodge last year $3, still due $2.

GILEAD No. 9.—Table of Fees not filled out with the amount charged for each initiation, passing, and raising, no seal.

GEORGE WASHINGTON No. 24.—Caption not filled out with either name, number, or year.

LAFAYETTE No. 26.—Table of Fees not filled out with the amount charged for each initiation, and passing.

RISING SUN No. 29.—Initials used, in the table of Dues the number of members not set down, the word *none* left out in several places where it should be put in.

AUTAUGA No. 31.—No date to attestation.

WASHINGTON No. 36.—No name or number on the back, recapitulation not filled out.

COURTLAND No. 37.—Initials used, return carelessly filled out, seal illegible, number of members not set down in the table of Dues.

LEIGHTON No. 43,—Date of one affiliation not given.

DEMOPOLIS No. 49.—Amount of Dues added to each name, which is not required by the *form;* abbreviations used, the name of one F. C. under the head of E. A.

UNION No. 50.—Initials and abbreviations used, in the table of Fees $45 is put down for initiation, $15 for passing, $30 for raising, and $144 55 for lodge dues, evidently a misconception.

Fraternally submitted.

ALEXANDER McCOLLISTER,
Chairman.

Brother Martin G. Slaughter, from the Committee on

Chartered Lodges No. 6, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 6.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

The Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 6 have carefully examined the subordinate Lodge Returns submitted to them, and have instructed me to report the following

CORRECT:

Tensaw	No. 221	Tallassee	No. 237
Western Star	" 222	Fairmount, 2 years	" 238
Sandy Ridge	" 223	Bowen	" 241
Louisville	" 225	Coosa	" 242
Santa Fe, 2 years	" 226	Ramer	" 243
James Penn, 1876	" 227	Harrison	" 246
Sepulga	" 233	Toluca	" 249
Isney	" 234	Amand	" 250
Harpersville	" 235	Quitman	" 254

INCORRECT.

SAM DIXON No. 218.—Master's name in the wrong place, no seal.

NEWTON No. 224.—Table of Dues not filled out, no date to affiliations, no date to passing and raising 2 MMS.

JAMES PENN No. 227.—For 1877 in the recapitulation Secretary reports —members in good standing *none*, although he gives the names of 25.

DALLAS No. 228.—Name of Lodge not on the back, in the table of Fees for initiation, passing, and raising he reports none, and $12 dues per annum for each member.

DAWSON No. 244.—Secretary has added a column for dues from each member, although that column has been left off in the printed blanks and its place supplied by a table of dues.

LAWRENCE No. 248.—Same error as in the preceding.

CAMP CREEK No. 251.—In the table of dues Secretary reports 22 members at 50 cents, whereas it should be 21; returns badly disfigured with erasures and splotches of ink.

NORTH PORT No. 252.—Same error as in No. 244.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

MARTIN G. SLAUGHTER,
Chairman.

Brother William J. Samford, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 4, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 4.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 4, beg leave to report that having examined all the returns submitted to them, the following are found to be

CORRECT:

Unity	No. 136	Maysville	No. 158
Bradford	" 138	Fayetteville Authentic	" 163
Bethel	" 141	Sumter	" 166
Daleville	" 144	Buena Vista	" 169
Cold Water	" 148	Clopton	" 171
Mount Jefferson	" 152	Fellowship	" 172
Monroeville	" 153	Andrew Jackson	" 173
Eastaboga, for 1876	" 155	Ezel	" 175
Somerville, for 1877	" 157		

INCORRECT:

CHILTON No. 139.—Name and number not upon the back; no seal, lost in the fire.

SHELBY No. 140.—Name and number not upon the back.

BALDWIN No. 142.—Names abbreviated, date of one death in the wrong place, table of Dues wrongly made up.

BURLESON No. 143.—No name or number on the back or in the caption, and year in the latter not filled out, seal illegible, several erasures and interlineations.

FRATERNITY No. 145.—Table of Fees not filled out, and lodge dues put down at $23 instead of one, seal horizontally impressed, no date to two deaths.

RODGERSVILLE No. 147.—Report erroneously brought up to December 1st; 3 members suspended for non-payment of dues on 1st of December, 1877, and yet reported in the general list as in good standing; one member reported raised on the 1st of December, 1877, also one E. A., thus complicating and confusing the return.

BLADON SPRINGS No. 151.—For 1876 and 1877, in neither is the table of Fees filled out, no date to one rejection and one death, and in one return no post-office is set down.

EASTABOGA No. 155.—For 1877, correct on its face, but one member (Andrew J. Rickey) returned in 1876 as in good standing, is left off and not accounted for.

SOMERVILLE No. 157.—For 1876, names not all numbered, names not opposite to numbers, returns 16 members, and pays dues only on 15, no one marked M. G., seal partly illegible, no date to attestation, Recapitulation not filled up except—*Dimitted one, whole number of members one.*

MOUNT HOPE No. 168.—Abbreviations used, seal partly illegible, does not pay dues on 3 ministers, but the three are not designated.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

W. J. SAMFORD,
Chairman.

Brother Anthony H. Sellers, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 7, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 7.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 7, beg leave to report that they have carefully examined the returns submitted to them, and find the following

CORRECT:

Randolph	No. 258	Bullock	No. 276
Magnolia	" 259	Northern	" 278
Bellville	" 260	Charles Baskerville	" 281
Talladega	" 261	Georgiana	" 285
Highland	" 262	Walker	" 286
Mount Pleasant	" 266	Clinton	" 287
Wind Creek	" 267	Norris	" 300
Butler Springs	" 270	Zion	" 304
Clifton	" 272	Central City	" 305
Paint Rock—2 years	" 274	Jonesboro'	" 315
Frankfort	" 275		

INCORRECT:

GAYLESVILLE No. 256.—Initials and abbreviations used.

ERVIN No. 257.—Dues from each member added by the Secretary which the blank return does not require.

MERIDIAN No. 265.—Table of Dues and Fees made out wrong.

SPRINGVILLE No. 280.—Two names in one line.

FORT DEPOSIT No. 291.—Table of Fees made out wrong.

Respectfully submitted.

A. H. SELLERS,
Chairman.

Brother James M. Oliver, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 8, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 8.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committe on Chartered Lodges No. 8, having carefully examined the returns submitted to them, respectfully make the following report. They find the following

CORRECT:

Warrenton	No. 320	Hurtville	No. 346
Holly Grove	" 323	Ozark	" 349
Viola	" 324	Wilson Williams	" 351
Charity	" 331	Rock Mills	" 353
Oliver	" 334	Henton	" 354
Nanafalia	" 335	Van Buren	" 355
Albert Pike	" 339	Rutledge	" 357
Clear Creek	" 340	Barbour	" 358
Ragan	" 341	Newtonville—2 years	" 360
Pikeville	" 344		

INCORRECT:

CLUTTSVILLE No. 319.—Name not indorsed on the back.

MADISON STATION No. 329.—Caption of the return not filled up with name, or number, or year; no seal.

FORKLAND No. 330.—Initials used, year A. L. not filled out, no seal, Recapitulation shows one affiliated which is not under the proper head in the returns.

BLUE EYE No. 332.—No date to reinstatements, nor to affiliation, nor to initiation, passing, or raising.

JOHNSON No. 337.—One member marked suspended under the head of *Suspensions N. P. D.*, and reinstated before returns sent up, but his name not under the head of Reinstatements, nor in the list of members, and no dues paid on him; table of Fees improperly made up.

SUMMIT No. 343.—No seal.

ECHO No. 345.—Secretary has erroneously added a column for Dues opposite each member's name, which the blank return does not require.

BIENVILLE No. 348.—Amount of Dues not indorsed on the back.

The Committee does not assume to pass upon every question that may be presented in the returns, but believing that they should show all the facts in each particular case, and as indicated by the Blanks, and suggestions therein contained, and as a matter of uniformity in our jurisdiction, and great convenience to the Grand Officers and the Grand Lodge, and taking the blanks so furnished, with the construction your committee places upon the rules and principles applicable thereto, they have felt bound to report certain returns incorrect.

Respectfully submitted.

J. M. OLIVER,
Chairman.

Brother James B. Head, from the Committee on By-Laws, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON BY-LAWS:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

The Committee on By-Laws, appointed at the present Grand Communication, beg leave to report, that they have carefully examined the By-Laws of the several Subordinate Lodges submitted to them by the Grand Secretary, and they find the same, named as follows, to be conformable to the principles of the Fraternity and usages of masons, and the Constitution and regulations of the Grand Lodge; towit:

Pfister	No. 90	Cullman Fraternal	" 421
Oak Level	No. 415	Shorterville	" 422
Hilton	" 419	Clanton	" 423
Broomtown	" 420		

The Committee, however, make the following recommendations, *viz*.—

To PFISTER No. 90.—That the words "unless it be considered a case of

emergency" in SEC. 4, ART. IV, be stricken out. That the words "if proper to be written" in SEC. 5, ART. IV, be stricken out. That the words "Regular Communication" be substituted for the words *stated meeting* whenever the latter appear in the By-Laws.

To OAK LEVEL No. 415.—That SEC. 1, ART. IV, be amended so as to insert between the words "communication" and "and" the following "be referred to a committee of three Master Masons, members of the Lodge." That the words "if necessary" in SEC. 4, of ART. VI, be stricken out, and the words, "if convened for that purpose" be substituted therefor. That the word "handed" be substituted for the word "handing" in SEC. 1, of ART. VIII. That the order of business as laid down in the Masonic Code, page 99, be adopted as a part of the By-Laws of the Lodge.

To HILTON No. 419.—That the words "regular communication" be substituted for the words "stated meeting" wherever the latter occur.

To SHORTERVILLE No. 422.—That the order of business as laid down in the Masonic Code, page 99, be adopted as a part of the By-Laws of the Lodge.

To CLANTON No. 423.—That the word "affiliation" be substituted for the word "application" where it occurs in SEC. 1 of ART. III. That the word "Grand" where it first occurs in SEC. 6 of ART. VI, be stricken out. That the word "dimit" be substituted for the word "withdraw" in SEC. 1 of ART. VII.

Respectfully submitted.

JAMES B. HEAD,
Chairman.

Brother Philip Milhous, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 10, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 10.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

You Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 10, beg leave to report, that they have carefully examined the returns submitted to them, and find the following

CORRECT:

North Border	No. 391	Helena	No. 410
Opelika	" 395	Jemison	" 411
Haw Ridge	" 399	Amberson	" 412
Green Hill	" 402	Oak Level	" 415
Childersburg	" 403	Williamsburg	" 416
Hoboken	" 404	George Smith	" 417
Blount Springs—2 years	" 405	Cullman Fraternal	" 421
North River	" 407	Shorterville	" 422
Hillsboro'	" 408		

INCORRECT:

HICKORY FLAT No. 392.—Recapitulation lettered out instead of being in figures, initials and abreviations used, one member reported reinstated December 16, 1877; same member reported under head of Officers and Members, as Junior Warden; 2 suspended N. P. D., and 1 reported raised and 2 passed after the end of the masonic year, which is November 14.

VALLEY HEAD No. 394.—One reported dimitted, but the name not given.

FALKVILLE No. 396.—First name of one member omitted.

HARTSELLE No. 398.—No seal, lodge has none.

HANCEVILLE No. 400.—Reports 24 members, 2 of whom are claimed to be M. G's, but are not so designated, pays dues on 19, therefore owe the Grand Lodge $1.50, table of fees improperly made up.

DORIC No. 406.—No date to 1 death, seal inverted and illegible.

PONDTOWN No. 409.—No seal, lodge has none.

HILTON No. 419.—Blanks not filled except under the head of Degrees Conferred, table of dues and fees not filled up.

CLANTON No. 423.—Name, and number, and year not inserted in the caption, Master's name signed in the wrong place, initials used, F. C's name put under the head of E. A's after they have been passed, generally incomplete.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

PHILIP MILHOUS,
For the Committee.

SPECIAL ORDER.

The report from the Committee on Foreign Cor-

respondence as to the question of recognizing the Grand Orient of Brazil, was made the special order for this evening at 8 o'clock.

Brother Stephen H. Beasley, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 2, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in :

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 2.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama :

The Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 2 beg leave to submit their report. They have examined the returns placed in their hands, and find the following

CORRECT:

New Market	No. 52	Holsey	No. 68
Greening	" 53	Howard	" 69
Amity	" 54	Central	" 70
Mount Moriah	" 55	Tohopeka	" 71
Troy	" 56	Widow's Son	" 72
Tuskegee	" 57	Solomon	" 74
Benton	" 59	Crozier	" 78
Tompkinsville	" 61	Wilcox	" 80
Saint John's	" 62	Saint Stephens	" 81
Eureka	" 64	Meridian Sun	" 88
Liberty	" 65	Prattville	" 89
Hampden Sidney	" 67	Henry	" 91

INCORRECT:

SOCIAL No. 63.—Neither name, number, nor year, inserted in the caption.

AUBURN No. 76.—Initials and abbreviations used, no date to attestation.

FREDONIA No. 79.—Name not indorsed on the back.

BELLEFONTE No. 82.—Name not indorsed on the back, initials and abbreviations used, members improperly numbered, no date to suspensions N. P. D.

FRIENDSHIP No. 83.—Initials and abbreviations used. The ink with which this return is made out is so pale as to be scarcely legible.

EROPHOTIC No. 84.—Initials and abbreviations used, Master's name signed in the wrong place, return much blotted and carelessly made out, and attested on Sunday, the 2d of December.

PFISTER No. 90.—Recapitulation erroneous—2 affiliations are reported

outside, 3 inside; none are reported dimitted on the outside, while the inside shows 1; seal nearly illegible and upside down.

SAWYER No. 93.—Initials used, seal scarcely legible, and crank-sided.

DANVILLE No. 95.—In the list of reinstatements are the names of Wesley B. Lindsay, Robert C. Puckett. and Samuel C. Lovelady; but these names do not appear in the list of members, unless William B. Lindsey and Robert E. Puckett are intended for two of them, whilst the name of Samuel C. Lovelady does not appear at all; in one case the dues are short $1 50, and in the other 50 cents; nine members are claimed as ministers, but they are not designated in the list.

STEPHEN H. BEASLEY,
Chairman.

SPECIAL ORDER.

The report of the Committee on Finance was made the special order for this evening immediately after reading the minutes.

SPECIAL ORDER.

The election of Grand Officers was made the special order for this evening immediately after the Report on Finance.

Brother Elisha J. Robinson, from the Committee on Dispensations No. 1, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON DISPENSATIONS NO. 1.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Dispensations No. 1 beg to report that they have carefully examined the minutes of the following Lodges working under Dispensation, *to-wit:*

Sulphur Springs	Lodge	No. 414.
Oak Level	"	" 415.
Hilton	"	" 419.

The minutes of No. 414 are imperfectly kept, badly written, and blotched; the word *degree* is frequently written instead of Lodge; also

the abbreviations E. A., F. C., and M. M., instead of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason.

The minutes of No. 415 are neatly and properly kept, and in all essential matters correct, except that they are occasionally written in pencil, which should never be done.

The minutes of No. 419 are neatly and correctly kept.

To the former two your committee recommend that charters be granted, and at the request of the latter that its dispensation be continued.

Fraternally submitted,

ELISHA J. ROBINSON,
Chairman.

And then, after prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until this evening at 7 o'clock.

IN GRAND LODGE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, December 5, 1877.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 7 o'clock, the M. W. Grand Master, Palmer J. Pillans, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

Prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The minutes were read and approved.

Brother Oliver S. Beers, from the Committee on Finance, made report, and the report was received and concurred in. *(For Report see Appendix.)*

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing Masonic year, Brothers James A. Bilbro, Alexander McCollister, and John A. Padgett, acting as tellers, and the election resulted as follows:

ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

HENRY CLAY ARMSTRONG	Tuskegee	Grand Master.
HENRY C. TOMPKINS	Union Springs	Deputy Grand Master.
RUFUS W. COBB	Helena	Senior Grand Warden.
JOHN H. BANKHEAD	Moscow	Junior Grand Warden.
WILLIAM H. DINGLEY	Montgomery	Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE	Montgomery	Grand Secretary.
JAMES DAVIDSON	Montgomery	Grand Tiler.

And the M. W. Grand Master *elect* announced the following

APPOINTED GRAND OFFICERS.

Rev. William C. Bledsoe	LaFayette	Grand Chaplain.
Joseph M. Kumpe	Leighton	Grand Marshal.
Joseph A. Adams	Newton	Senior Grand Deacon.
John W. Jones	Jefferson	Junior Grand Deacon.
Adam R. Baker	Montgomery	Grand Steward.
John W. Martin	Montgomery	Grand Steward.

Brother William T. Walthall, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following report on the question of recognizing the Grand Orient of Brazil, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON BRAZIL.

To the M. W. Grand Master, R. W. Grand Wardens, and Brothers, of the Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence, who have had under consideration for two years certain questions referred to them concerning the relations of this Grand Lodge to Masonic organizations existing in the Empire of Brazil, beg leave to report that they have obtained but little information on the subject beyond that which they had the honor to submit in their general report for 1874. (*See proceedings for* 1874, *Appendix, pp.* 147-151.)

As set forth in that report, there are two Grand Bodies in Brazil, each claiming, as of right, supreme and exclusive jurisdictions over Freemasonry throughout that Empire. Of these two bodies, one, which styles itself "The United Grand Orient and Supreme Council of Brazil," represents the lodges generally known as "Benedictinos;" the other, "The Grand Orient of Brazil," issues its official utterances from the "Valley of Lavradio," and its adherents, accordingly, seem to be popularly known as Lavradios. The Grand Masters of both—Senhor Saldanha Marinho, of the former, and the Viscount of Rio Branco, of the latter—are both gentlemen of high character, so far as we can ascertain, of good report as Masons, and spoken of with courtesy and respect even by their opponents in the unfortunate controversy that prevails between the two organizations.

Of the merits of that controversy, your committee confess that they are utterly unable, with the very scanty lights before them, to form an in-

telligent opinion, or to determine which of the two Grand Bodies has the higher claim to legitimacy. Each has received recognition from some of the Masonic authorities with whom we are in more immediate communication, while others decline or defer to acknowledge the claims of either.

Further embarrassment arises from the fact, manifested through various indications not necessary to be specified, that both Grand Bodies in question are based upon, and work in, or at least adopt the organization and terminology of a RITE with which the Grand Lodge of Alabama, as such, is not acquainted, and has no common ground of communication.

Were the question, therefore, an original one, to be considered merely with regard to its own merits, your committee would have no hesitation in recommending, at least for the present, a respectful abstinence from any formal act of official recognition of either of the Brazilian grand bodies, and a maintenance of this attitude of standing aloof from all possible entanglements -not repellently or discourteously, but merely in the exercise of the cardinal virtue of Prudence -until further light should justify us in assuming a more positive position.

But the question in our case is complicated by other considerations. A few years ago the generous, large and warm-hearted charity exercised by the Masons of Brazil toward the family of a brother, of this Jurisdiction, who had died among them, a stranger leaving his dear ones in bitter desolation and distress, touched a chord of responsive and fraternal sympathy which filled the hearts of the whole Fraternity in Alabama. We have never known to which branch or division of our Brazilian brothers we owe this illustration of the genuine spirit of Masonic charity. Indeed, it occurred, if we mistake not, about the time when a union—unfortunately only of brief duration—had been effected between the two parties. It so happened, however, that while the emotions excited by the exhibition of fraternal charity just referred to, were still fresh in our minds and memories, overtures for official inter-communion were made by the "Grand Orient of Brazil," of the Valley of Lavradio. It is probably safe to assume that, when these overtures were received, not half a dozen members of this Grand Lodge, probably not a member, was aware of the existence of any conflict in Brazil; nor is it likely that the question of an organic diversity, and perhaps incompatibility, in the composition of both Grand Bodies claiming jurisdiction in that country, as compared with our own system, was seriously considered. Acting on the impulses of the heart, rather than on the sober conclusions of a judgment formed after due and careful examination, the proposition was at once accepted in the same fraternal spirit in which it was tendered. An interchange of representatives was authorized, and the usual routine

of official intercourse inaugurated, which has been continued in the most cordial and courteous spirit by our Brazilian brothers of the "Valley of Lavradio."

While, therefore, your committee, with the information now before them, are unable fully to justify or defend the former action of this Grand Lodge in the premises, they are not prepared to recommend its abrogation. There are cases in which the correction of a mistake may be more mischievous than the mistake itself, and this is probably one of them.

In view of all the facts and the considerations herein set forth, your committee beg leave respectfully to recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That in the recognition heretofore accorded to the "Grand Orient of Brazil, Valley of Lavradio," and in the intercourse since maintained and still existing with that Most Worshipful Body, this Grand Lodge disclaims any intention to pronounce a decision, or to be understood as expressing or implying an opinion, upon the merits of any existing controversy, or the conflicting claims of different Grand Bodies to Masonic jurisdiction in the Empire of Brazil.

Resolved, That, under present circumstances, it is inexpedient to disturb the relations already existing, or to enter into a consideration of questions which, nevertheless, should practical occasion arise, may be legitimate factors for the determination of future action.

Resolved, That, while deploring the dissensions, as to matters of organization and government, prevailing among our brethren of Brazil, we are happy to bear witness to their signal exemplification, in conduct, of the true spirit and genuine principles of Masonic fraternity and charity.

Appended to this report, as illustrative of some of the above statements, your committee respectfully submit a paper which has been referred to them by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and ask to be discharged from further consideration of the subject.

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted.

W. T. WALTHALL, Chairman,
For the Committee.

And then, after prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow morning at 10½ o'clock.

IN GRAND LODGE.

THURSDAY MORNING, December 6, 1877.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 10½ o'clock, the M. W. Grand Master, Palmer J. Pillans, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

Prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The minutes were read and approved.

Brother Joseph H. Johnson, from the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in, except as hereafter appears:

REPORT ON MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, after a careful consideration of the several subjects referred to them, report as follows, and in the following order;

1st. On the Rulings of Grand Master Wilson for 1875.

2d. On the conflicting decisions of Grand Master Wilson and Grand Master Pillans, in reference to the effect of Restoration of Charter to Dormant Lodges.

3d. On the Rulings of Grand Master Pillans for 1876.

4th. On the Right of Appeal by Non-Affiliated Masons to the Grand Lodge from the Decisions of a Subordinate Lodge.

5th. On the Decisions of the Grand Master in his annual address to this Grand Communication, and the special subject referred to this Committee by the Grand Lodge at the suggestion of the Committee on the Grand Master's address.

Rulings of Grand Master for 1875.

The Rulings of Grand Master Wilson, found in his address to the Grand Lodge at the Communication of 1875, were taken up, severally examined and discussed, and were indorsed and approved by the Committee, except as to the following, to-wit: Rulings Nos. 5, 6, and 19. In Ruling No. 5, where the Principle is announced, "That a woman who has been divorced from her husband is not a competent witness against him in a Masonic Tribunal, as to matters or things which transpired during coverture," the committee recommend an exception in cases of *injuries to her person.*

To Ruling No. 6, which is in these words: "The written testimony used in a court of law or chancery cannot be used as evidence in a Masonic trial, except by the consent of the parties thereto," the committee instruct me to report as an additional clause the following: "Or when the witness is dead, having been cross-examined."

The Committee recommends as the proper construction of the word "*Right,*" where it appears in Ruling No. 19, is that it is used in the sense of privilege.

Conflicting Decisions of Grand Masters Wilson and Pillans.

The next subject claiming the attention of the Committee was the Decision of Grand Master Pillans, made in 1876, (see Ruling No. 7, p. 13, proceedings 1876,) in conflict with the Decision of Grand Master Wilson, made in 1874, (see Ruling No. 20, p. 14, proceeding 1874.)

The opinion of the Committee on this subject was prepared by R. W. Rufus W. Cobb, a member of the Committee, and unanimously indorsed, and is as follows:

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to which was referred the decision of G. M. Pillans upon the subject of the restoration of dormant lodges, and the rights of the members thereof, which conflicts with the decision of Past G. M. Wilson upon the same subject, respectfully beg leave to report that in the opinion of this Committee a lodge consists of its membership and a charter or warrant empowering them to work, and there can be no lodge without both membership and charter or warrant empowering them to work. The absence of, or rather the want of membership, will as effectually destroy the existence of the lodge as the forfeiture of the charter. If, then, a lodge be *restored*, it must be with *some* membership, and to hold that the membership is not the membership existing at the time of forfeiture would be to give the lodge a *new* membership, and therefore it is made a *new* lodge, which cannot be created in this way. (See Art. VI of the Constitution.)

Therefore your Committee report that the correct ruling upon the subject is as follows, to-wit: That the effect of the restoration of a dormant lodge, as provided for in Section 22, Art. VI of the Constitution, is to revive the charter and reinstate the membership to all their rights and privileges and disabilities, existing at the time of forfeiture, except as to such members as during the dormancy of the lodge have paid their dues to the Grand Secretary and received his certificate, and respectfully recommend its adoption.

Rulings of Grand Master for 1876.

The Rulings of the Grand Master for 1876 were severally examined and indorsed by the Committee.

As to Right of Appeal by Non-Affiliated Masons.

The question as to the right of appeal by non-affiliated masons, raised by the Committee on Suspensions, Expulsions, and Appeals, and at their request referred to this Committee, has never reached the Committee in writing. The Committee are unanimously of the opinion "that a non-affiliated mason *cannot* take an appeal from the decision of a subordinate lodge to the Grand Lodge *unless he be the party defendant.*"

Decisions of Grand Master in 1877.

The decisions of the Grand Master, reported to the present Communication of the Grand Lodge, have received careful consideration, and most of them are heartily and fully indorsed. The Committee felt constrained to dissent from one of the rulings against their better judgment. The Grand Lodge having heretofore approved of a ruling by the Grand Master in 1875, directly in conflict with the one alluded to, and which is as follows: "Every member present in good standing, has the right to vote, *he alone* being the judge if his relations to the accused forbid it.

The ruling heretofore indorsed by the Grand Lodge, (ruling No. 27, p. 12, Proceedings 1875,) is as follows: "When there is such near relation by blood or marriage to any member of the lodge by a person accused of a masonic offense, as would likely bias his verdict, *such member should not be* permitted to sit on trial of the case, and when the vote is being taken, should retire from the lodge."

As to use of Halls for other than Masonic Purposes.

The Committee are of the opinion that the ruling in reference to the use of masonic halls for other than masonic purposes should be modified

so as to express in substance the following: "*Masonic halls ought not to be used* for other than *masonic purposes.*"

Questions Referred to the Jurisprudence Committee by Request of the Grand Master in his Address.

The Grand Master, in his address, calls the attention of the Grand Lodge, and the Committee on Jurisprudence, to a certain ruling which he found himself compelled to make "against his better judgment," because of Rule 19, Art. VII of the Constitution. The Grand Master does not state what his ruling was, but submits two questions (see the address) which your Committee have diligently and laboriously investigated, and by a majority vote arrived at certain conclusions, as will hereinafter appear. The Committee recognizes the grave difficulties surrounding a correct solution of these questions. They are, however, forced to the conclusion that a strict construction of Rule 19, Art. VII of the Constitution, fixes the status of a brother, who has been tried and suspended for a definite period, and who has taken an appeal to the Grand Lodge, which appeal has been sustained before the termination of the period of suspension, *to be that of an unaffiliated mason.* In addition to a strict construction of Rule 19, Art. VII of the Constitution, the Committee refer to the ruling of Grand Master Wilson on this subject, page 12, Proceeding of 1875, ruling No. 21, as in support of their position. To the second question asked in connection with the foregoing, "Can the said brother, presenting the certificate of the Grand Secretary of the action of the Grand Lodge, and applying for membership to another lodge, be elected?" We answer—he can. He being a non-affiliated mason, and presenting the only evidence obtainable by him of his status.

Conclusion.

In conclusion, in order that a *satisfactory* solution of these questions may be had, the Committee report the following amendment to Rule 19, Art. VII of the Constitution, and ask that the same be submitted to the subordinate lodges for their ratification or rejection:

Amendment Proposed by the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence to Rule 19, *Art. VII of the Constitution.*

Rule 19.—The Grand Lodge may reverse the decision of a subordinate lodge whereby a brother is suspended or expelled, but such reversal shall

in no case restore the accused to membership in the lodge from which he was *indefinitely suspended* or expelled.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

J. H. JOHNSON,
L. A. WILSON,
WILSON WILLIAMS,
R. W. COBB,
H. A. WOOLF,
Committee.

And the report was received and concurred in, except as to conclusions of Committee in support of the decision of Grand Master Wilson, No. 27, page 12, Proceedings of 1875, in conflict with decision of Grand Master Pillans on the same subject, in his address to this Communication of the Grand Lodge. The action of the Grand Lodge indorsing Grand Master Wilson's decision, was reconsidered, and both decisions were referred to the Jurisprudence Committee, with instructions to report upon the same at the next Communication of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge also, after a lengthy debate, refused to concur in the report of the Committee as to the two questions reported upon at the conclusion of their report, and the same was re-referred to the Committee with instructions to report at the next communication of the Grand Lodge.

On motion of the Grand Senior Warden, the action of the Grand Lodge, sustaining the report of the Committee, indorsing the ruling of Grand Master Pillans, in his address to this communication of the Grand Lodge in reference to the time for striking names from the roll for non-payment of dues, was reconsidered, and the same referred to the Committee, to be reported upon at the next communication of the Grand Lodge.

Brother Benjamin F. McGaughy, from the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON DOINGS OF GRAND OFFICERS.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Doings of Grand Officers have searched diligently for material out of which to construct a report to this Grand Lodge, but have signally failed, and have only to add that in the belief of your committee, the official acts of the Grand Officers are in every respect highly commendable.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted.

BENJAMIN F. McGAUGHY,
Chairman.

Brother Henry A. Woolf offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

DEMOPOLIS LODGE NO. 49.

Resolved, That the charter of Demopolis Lodge No. 49, which has been forfeited on account of non-representation, having now paid up all dues to the Grand Lodge, be, and the same is hereby reinstated.

The Brother Grand Secretary offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

ZION LODGE NO. 304.

Resolved, That Zion Lodge No. 304, the charter of which has been forfeited by reason of non-representation, having now paid up all dues to the Grand Lodge, be, and the same is hereby, reinstated.

Brother Henry C. Tompkins offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

REFERRED DECISIONS.

Resolved, That so much of the decisions of the Grand Master as refers

to the effect of a suspension for non-payment of dues, entered *after* the communication next preceding the Festival in June of each year, be re-referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, with instructions to report at the next communication of the Grand Lodge, in connection with the question asked by the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 1 at the communication of the Grand Lodge in 1876, as found on page 37 of the proceedings of that year.

Brother James H. Joiner, from the Committee on Work, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON WORK.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

The Committee on Work, to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's address as recommends additional qualifications of candidates for initiation, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report the following resolution, and recommends its adoption:

Resolved, That no subordinate lodge, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, shall receive any petition for initiation unless one of the two following statements, signed by the petitioner, shall be incorporated into the said petition, viz:

"Your petitioner further states that he has not heretofore petitioned any Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons for initiation and been rejected.

Signed,

....."

"Your petitioner further states that on or about the.....day of .....A. D.....he did petition.....Lodge No..... in..... for initiation and was rejected, and he herewith transmits the written consent to his initiation of a majority of the members of the said lodge.

Signed,

....."

All of which is fraternally submitted.

JAMES M. BRUNDIDGE,
JAMES H. JOINER,
MYLES J. GREENE,
JAMES A. WOOD,
Committee.

And then, after prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until this afternoon at 3½ o'clock.

IN GRAND LODGE.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, December 6, 1877.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 3½ o'clock, the M. W. Grand Master, Palmer J. Pillans, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

Prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The minutes were read and approved.

Brother Joseph Winthrop Moses, from the Committee on Propositions and Grievances, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON PROPOSITIONS AND GRIEVANCES.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Propositions and Grievances beg leave respectfully to report as follows:

PETITION OF BROTHER W. T. WALTHALL—

Recites that he is Worshipful Master of Bienville Lodge No. 348. That since his election he has been compelled to absent himself from his home, and is rendered thus unable to perform the duties of his office. Wherefore, he prays that the Grand Lodge will grant a dispensation permitting him to resign, and enabling Bienville Lodge No. 348 to elect a Master immediately.

In the opinion of your committee, this should not be done. Not only is it in direct conflict with the general laws of Masonry, but this Grand Lodge has already passed upon the question. In the address of the Grand Master, Joseph H. Johnson, made in 1871, we find the following decision: "Worshipful Masters cannot resign." Although this has

never, so far as your committee have been able to ascertain, been reported on by the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom, with other opinions, it was referred, yet your committee consider it sound Masonic law. They therefore recommend that the petition be not granted.

THE PETITION OF COFFEEVILLE LODGE No. 122—

Prays for permission to remove the Lodge to a point 12 miles from their present location, and to sell their old hall and purchase a new one.

After taking the testimony of Brother T. J. Cowan, W. M. of Coffeeville Lodge No. 122, your committee is of the opinion that the change desired is one proper to be made, and therefore recommend that the petition be granted.

THE MATTER OF BROTHER F. M. POSEY.

The complaint of Brother F. M. Posey is that he visited Green Hill Lodge No. 402, of which he is not a member, on an occasion when Brother C. J. D. McCluskey was W. M. After the Lodge was opened, the W. Master stated that unless Brother Posey was made to leave the Lodge Room, he would himself be forced to withdraw. That Brother Posey demanded to know the reason, which Brother McCluskey refused to assign. Brother Posey thereupon desired his own Lodge to investigate the matter, and the object of bringing this matter before the Grand Lodge was, as your committee presumes from the imperfect papers before them, to force such an investigation.

In the opinion of your committee, this is a matter with which the Grand Lodge should not interfere, unless it be brought before it in a more tangible shape. It does not appear that Brother McCluskey made any charges against Brother Posey. There is nothing, therefore, on which this Grand Lodge could base any action requiring any investigation of the affair.

The right of visitation to another Lodge is not absolute in a Mason simply because he is a brother in good standing. It may be denied him without any reason being assigned, and without infringing upon his Masonic rights and privileges. As this is the most that was done in this case, your committee deem that he has no right to an investigation.

GILLESPIE LODGE No. 290.

The petition of this Lodge to remove from its present location to Randolp's old stand, a point 3½ miles distant, is one that your committee con-

siders will inure to the advantage of the Lodge, and therefore recommend that it be granted.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOSEPH WIN MOSES,
JOE M. KUMPE,
GEORGE P. HARRISON JR.,
FRANCIS P. M. GILBERT,
JOHN M. DOYLE,
Committee.

Brother Benjamin L. Allen proposed the following amendment to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, and it being approved by one-third of the members present, it was ordered to be entered upon the minutes, and be thereby submitted to the several subordinate chartered Lodges for their approval or rejection:

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.

That the following section of the Constitution be amended by striking out all after, and including, the word *provided:*

SECTION 14, ARTICLE VI.

"The fee for initiating a candidate in the first degree of Masonry shall not be less than fifteen dollars; for the second degree, five dollars; and for the third, ten dollars: *Provided*, That any Lodge shall be authorized to confer any or all of those degrees gratuitously upon Ministers of the Gospel who are actively engaged in the exercise of their ministerial functions."

REPORT ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

Brother William S. Foster, from the Committee on Leave of Absence, made report, and the report was received, concurred in, and ordered to be filed.

INSTALLATION.

The Grand Officers were installed in AMPLE FORM by Past Grand Master, Palmer J. Pillans; the Grand Officers, elect and appointed, being presented by the Grand Marshal, Brother Joseph M. Kumpe.

Brother William Y. Titcomb offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

THANKS AND A JEWEL.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge are due and are hereby tendered to Brother Palmer J. Pillans, the retiring M. W. Grand Master, for his unceasing devotion to the arduous duties of his office; for the gentleness and kindness with which he has executed its functions; for the intelligence, and harmony, and knowledge of Masonic law, which have marked his decisions; and for his general appreciation of the individual rights and feelings of every member of the Grand Lodge during his administration. And while our best wishes attend him in his retirement from office, it is hereby ordered, as some slight token of our love and affection for him, both personally and officially, that the Grand Secretary procure a Past Grand Master's Jewel, with proper inscriptions thereon, for presentation to him at the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

The following were announced by the M. W. Grand Master as the appointed officers and standing committees of the Grand Lodge:

GRAND OFFICERS.

Rev. William C. Bledsoe.....Grand Chaplain.
Joseph M. Kumpe.....Grand Marshal.
Joseph A. Adams.....Senior Grand Deacon.
John W. Jones.....Junior Grand Deacon.
Adam R. Baker.....Grand Steward.
John W. Martin.....Grand Steward.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Oliver S. Beers.....Mobile.
James A. Bilbro.....Tuskegee.
John A. Padgett .....Rutledge.
DeWitt C. White.....Moulton.
James G. Cowan.....Union Springs.

SUSPENSIONS, EXPULSIONS, AND APPEALS.

William Y. Titcomb.....Pollard.
Young M. Rabb.....Evergreen.
Thomas J. Brewer.....Lincoln.
William A. O'Hara.....Harpersville.
Sam Thompson.....Elyton.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

Joseph H. Johnson, M. D.....Talladega.
Wilson Williams.....Opelika.
Rufus W. Cobb.....Helena.
Palmer J. Pillans.....Mobile.
Isaiah A. Wilson.....Union Springs.
Henry A. Woolf.....Linden.

WORK.

James M. Brundidge.....Decatur.
James H. Joiner.....Talladega.
Myles J. Greene, M. D.....Talladega.
James A. Wood.....Pleasant Hill.
Thomas P. Brewer.....Mobile.

ACCOMMODATION.

Adam R. Baker.....Montgomery.
James Davidson.....Montgomery.

MINUTES READ.

There being no further business to be brought before the Grand Lodge, at this Grand Communication, the minutes were read and approved.

CLOSED.

And then, after solemn prayer to the Throne of Grace by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama and its Masonic Jurisdiction was closed in Ample Form, and the M. W. Grand Master's Gavel fell at 5 o'clock and 12 minutes P. M.

DANIEL SAYRE,
Grand Secretary.

APPENDIX.

Grand Secretary's Annual Report.

M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama,

In Account with DANIEL SAYRE,

Grand Secretary.

1876.		CR.		
December	4.	By Dues this Grand Communication		$ 4,438 50
December	4.	" Contingent fund.....		650 00
December	4.	" Amount for office expenses.....		200 00
		CHARTERS.		
December	7.	By Hoboken No. 404.....$	35 00	
December	7.	" North River No. 407.....	35 00	
December	7.	" Hillsboro No. 408.....	35 00	
December	7.	" Pondtown No. 409...	35 00	
December	7.	" Helena No. 410.....	35 00	
December	7.	" Amberson No. 412.....	35 00	
December	7.	" High Shoals No. 413.....	35 00	
December	7.	" Williamsburg No. 416.....	35 00	
December	7.	" George Smith No. 417.....	35 00—	315 00
1877.		**DISPENSATIONS.**		
March...	15.	By Hilton No. 419.....	35 00	
May.....	4.	" Broomtown No. 420.....	35 00	
July.....	19.	" Cullman Fraternal No. 421.....	35 00	
August...	22.	" Shorterville No. 422.....	35 00	
August...	24.	" Clanton No. 423	35 00—	175 00
1876.		**BACK DUES.**		
December	18.	By Mount Moriah No. 55	19 50	
December	19.	" North Border 391.....	14 00	
1877.				
January..	10.	" Hillabee No. 197.....	10 50	
January..	23.	" Gaston No. 44..... ...	6 00	
January..	26.	" Kiligee No. 199.....	11 00	
February.	1.	" Bullock No. 276.....	9 00	
February.	10.	" Central No. 70.....	11 50	
February.	15.	" Friendship No. 83.....	22 50	
February.	19.	" Tohopeka No. 71.....	21 50	
February.	26.	" Bellefonte No. 82	11 50	
April.....		" Santa Fe No. 226.....	41 00	
June.....	29.	" Waterloo No. 382.....	1 00	
June.....	29.	" Fort Deposit No. 291.....	10 00	
August...	6.	" Tallassee No. 237.....	19 00—	208 00

1876.		INDIVIDUAL BACK DUES.		
December	1.	By M. S. Bozeman of No. 137.....	1 50	
1877.				
January..	29.	" S. W. Duncan of No. 236.....	1 50	
April....	9.	" W. A. Stokes of No. 239	5 00	
May.....	4.	" Shambling, Clark, Hamilton, Moseley, Glazener, Leath, Cunningham, Henderson, Doherty, Pickle, and Tallant, of Gaylesville No. 256.....	16 50	
June.....	11.	" Jackson, Smith, Burgess, Thomas, and A. L. Alexander, of Gaylesville No. 256.....	7 50	
June.....	19.	" Absalom L. Payne of No. 226..	1 50	
August..	24.	" J. S. Edwards of No. 137.....	2 00	
October..	5.	" McCullough and Alexander of Gaylesville No. 256.....	15 00	
October..	8.	" P. S. Siddell of No. 164.....	3 00—	53 50
November		" 16 copies Masonic Code.....		16 00
				$ 6,056 00

1876.		DR.		
December	26.	To paid Grand Treasurer.....	4,438 50	
1877.				
August...	20.	" " " "	500 00	
November		" " " "	206 10	
1876.				
December	22.	To Grand Master's Seal & Ex.....	11 00	
1877.				
		To John H. Engelhardt.....	25 00	
		" Frank A. Gerrish.....	3 25	
		" Joel White.....	8 90	
		" Joseph & Anderson—coal.....	7 50	
		" Warner & Son.....	3 50	
		" Masonic Furnish. Co.....	6 00	
		" Armstrong & Co.....	559 00	
		" Barrett & Brown.....	73 50	
		" Postage.....	94 00	
		" Opelika Lodge No. 195.....	48 50	
		" Water Works Co.....	5 00	
		" Gas.....	27 60	
		" Expressage.....	1 75	
		" Labor.....	16 90	
		" Counterfeit.....	20 00—	$ 6,056 00

Montgomery, December 3, 1877.

DANIEL SAYRE,
Grand Secretary.

Grand Treasurer's Annual Report.

M. W. GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA,
In Account with WM. H. DINGLEY,
Grand Treasurer.

1876.		CR.			
December 4.	By balance			$	460 33
" 26.	" Received from Grand Secretary	4,438	50		
August... 20.	" Received from Grand Secretary	500	00		
1877.					
November 27.	" Received from Grand Secretary	206	10—	5,144	60
				5,604	93

1876.		Dr.			
December 7.	To Com. on Work, J. A. Wood. 43	35	00		
	" Com. on Work, M. J. Greene. 44	29	00		
	" Com. on Work, J. H. Joiner. 45	45	00		
	" J. G. Warden, R. W. Cobb. . 46	10	00		
8.	" Grand Master P. J. Pillans. . 47	20	00		
	" Com. on Work, J. M. Brundidge 48	80	00		
	" Grand Steward A. R. Baker. 49	196	40		
9.	" S. G. Warden, H. C. Tompkins 50	15	00		
	" Com. on Appeals, W. Y. Titcomb 51	25	00		
	" Grand Tiler, Jas. Davidson. 52	100	00		
	" Grand Steward, J. W. Martin. 53	50	00		
12.	" Com. on For. Corres., O. S. Beers. 54	200	00		
18	" Grand Secretary, D. Sayre. . 55	1000	00		
	" Grand Treasurer, W. H. Dingley 56	150	00		
	" Grand Secretary, Contingent Fund 57	650	00		
	" Com. on Work, T. P. Brewer. 58	34	00		
	" Grand Secretary, Contingent Fund 59	200	00		
	" Rent of Hall and Offices. . . . 60	800	00		
	" Permanent Trust Fund	1000	00		
	" Permanent Trust Fund	500	00—	5,139	40
	" Balance on hand			465	53
				5,604	93

W. H. DINGLEY,
Grand Treasurer.

Montgomery, Alabama, Dec. 3, 1877.

Report of Trustees of Permanent Trust Fund.

1876.		DR.			
December 4.	Balance on hand.....,$		89 62		
1877.					
20.	Received from Treasurer.....		1,000 00		
August... 20.	Received from Treasurer.....		500 00		
	January and July Interest on $2 700 bonds.....		162 00		
	June, September and December Interest on $1 000 bonds.....		33 75		
	Premium on Gold.....		72 37	—$1, 857	74
1877.		CR.			
January.. 13.	Paid Premium on Gold.....		70 23		
	Paid Exchange and Express charges		9 37		
May..... 14.	Paid Premium on $1,000 4½ per cent. bond.....		94 50		
September 10.	Premium on $500 4 per cent. bond		23 88		
	BONDS ON HAND.				
	1,000 registered 4½ per ct. No. 6,760		1,000 00		
	100 coupon 4 per cent.. " 26,484		100 00		
	100 " " " " .. " 26,485		100 00		
	100 " " " " .. " 26,486		100 00		
	100 " " " " .. " 26,487		100 00		
	100 " " " " .. " 26,488		100 00		
December 3.	Cash on hand.....		159 76	— 1, 857	74

Report on Finance.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Finance having examined the reports of the R. W. Grand Treasurer and the R. W. Grand Secretary, together with the report of the Trustees of the permanent Trust fund of the M. W. Grand Lodge, beg leave to report that they find these several statements of receipts and disbursements of the revenues of the Grand Lodge correct, and attested by satisfactory vouchers.

The following condensed statement of receipts and expenditures will correctly indicate the financial operations of this Grand Lodge for the year ending Dec. 1st, 1877:

RECEIPTS.

To balance cash on hand Dec. 1st, 1876, as per last report		$ 460 33	
" cash dues to Annual Communication, 1876		4,438 50	
" " Lodge back dues		208 00	
" " individual back dues held in trust		53 50	
" " sales of Code		16 00	
" " for Charters $315 00	Due Trust fund	490 00	
" " for Dispensations 175 00			
Total receipts			$ 5,666 33

DISBURSEMENTS.

" " expended for appropriations of 1876, total appropriation $3,821 40 expended.		3,652 30	
" " paid Trustees of Permanent fund for investment as per their report		1,500 00	
" " individual dues returned to Opelika Lodge		48 50	
Total Disbursements			4,200 80
Cash balance Dec. 1st, 1877			$ 465 53

The receipts of the Grand Treasurer for dues to this annual communication and from all sources applicable to current expenses are estimated by your committee as follows, viz:

Dues for 1877	$4,500 00	$3,600 00	
Less 20 per cent. due Permanent Fund	900 00		
Dues for 1875 and 1876	500 00	400 00	4,000 00
Less 20 per cent. due Permanent Fund	100 00		
Total current revenues			$4,465 53

Your Committee respectfully recommends the following appropriations to provide for and defray the necessary annual expenses of the Grand Lodge for the fiscal year ending Dec. 1st, 1877, and ask your approval of the same:

APPROPRIATIONS.

To R. W. Bro. Daniel Sayre—salary as Grand Secretary	$1,000 00	
" " " " W. H. Dingley—salary as Grand Treasurer	150 00	
" " " " James Davidson—salary as Grand Tiler	100 00	
" " " " Adam R. Baker—salary as Sr. Grand Steward	100 00	
" " " " Jno. W. Martin—salary as Jr. Grand Steward	50 00	
" " " " Adam R. Baker for incidental expenses of Grand Lodge Hall, including repairs to be reimbursed by Landlord	121 15	
To Report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence	200 00	
" Expenses of Committee on Work as much thereof as may be required	250 00	
" Expenses of Grand Officers, (including $25 00 to Chairman of Committee on Suspensions, Expulsions and Appeals) or as much thereof as may be required	250 00	
For Rent of Grand Lodge Hall, subject to abatement for repairs paid by Grand Lodge as an advance on rent	800 00	
" Contingent Grand Lodge expenses including stationery and printing—the latter to be awarded to the lowest best bidder as heretofore	900 00	
Total appropriations		$ 3,921 15

Your Committee also recommend that an additional appropriation of at least Three Hundred Dollars be made to the Trustees of the Permanent Trust Fund, for the benefit of that fund, and to be invested with the other accumulations, out of any moneys remaining in the Treasurer after payment of the above regular appropriations, provided that the cash balance in the Treasury shall not thereby be reduced below the sum of Three Hundred Dollars. The Finance Committee note with pleasure the fact that many of the Lodges heretofore delinquent or tardy in remitting dues to the Grand Lodge, are now paying up arrearages, and are assured from this and other favorable omens, that the dreary night of our financial trial is already tinged by the dawn of coming prosperity.

Let the difficulties of our recent past admonish us however, to be prudent

still, and adhere to the frugal and economic habits forced upon us by adversity, and neglect not the lessons of wisdom suggested by its experiences.

The Permanent Trust Fund through which the M. W. Grand Lodge by a wise forethought determined in 1875 to husband its surplus income derived mainly from the savings accruing of expenditures claims our attention here, and we beg to commend it anew to the sympathy and support of the fraternity in this jurisdiction. It has already assumed an important position in our financial history, as well as illustrates in its rapidly increasing sum the cumulative power of such investments when intrusted to safe and judicious managers. We append a statement of operations of this trust for the past year and of its condition on the 1st of Dec., 1877, with estimate of amount to be added by investments in January next.

PERMANENT TRUST FUND.

OPERATIONS FOR 1876-77.

Receipts.

Balance on hand Dec, 1st, 1876		$ 89 62	
Deposited by Grand Treasurer		1,500 00	
Interest collected		195 75	
Prem. on Gold	72 37 70 23	2 14	
Total receipts			$ 1,787 51

DISBURSEMENTS.

Cost of $1 500 U. S. Bonds	1,000 (4½ per cent.) 500 (4 per cent.)	1,618 38	
Exchange and Express charges		9 37	
Cash balance on hand Dec. 1st, 1877		159 76	
Total disbursements			$ 1,787 51
Total amount of U. S. Bonds acquired to date and held by Trustees in special deposit for this fund.			4,200 00

ESTIMATED OPERATIONS FOR 1877-78.

Balance on hand as above	159 76	
Interest to accrue January 1st, 1878	97 25	
Dues from Grand Lodge	1,000 00	
Charters, Dispensations and probable Grand Lodge Appropriations	500 00	
Probable income to be invested in 1878		$ 1,757 01

Before closing this report your committee beg to refer with gratification to the report of the R. W. Grand Secretary detailing the efforts to aid, and the contributions received in behalf of the sufferers hy the late disastrous fire in the city of St. John, New Brunswick.

It wns a laudable effort at promoting the charitable objects of our organization and elicited a very creditable response from the Lodges which were able to contribute.

The amount collected was $106 75, of which $11 00 are still in hand to be remitted.

Respectfully submitted.

OLIVER S. BEERS, Chairman.
EDWARD N. KRING,
WILLIAM C. WHEELER.
JAMES A. REID,
SAM THOMPSON.

MEMORANDA.

REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER GRAND LODGES NEAR THE GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA.

WILSON WILLIAMS	*Opelika*	Arkansas.
LEWIS E. PARSONS	*Talladega*	Brazil.
HENRY A. WOOLF	*Linden*	Canada.
ROBERT D. WEBB	*Livingston*	District Columbia.
MORRIS K. TAYLOR	*Meridianville*	England.
DAVID CLOPTON	*Montgomery*	Florida.
JOSEPH H. JOHNSON, M. D	*Talladega*	Georgia.
DANIEL SAYRE	*Montgomery*	Illinois.
PELEG BROWN	*Mobile*	Indiana.
DANIEL SAYRE	*Montgomery*	Iowa.
WILLIAM A. O'HARA, M. D	*Harpersville*	Ireland.
JOHN J. DELCHAMPS	*Mobile*	Italy.
————	————	Kansas.
DANIEL SAYRE	*Montgomery*	Kentucky.
DAVID CLOPTON	*Montgomery*	Louisiana.
JAMES B. LUCKIE, M. D	*Birmingham*	Maine.
JOEL WHITE	*Montgomery*	Maryland.
————	————	Minnesota.
THOMAS M. BRAGG, M. D	*Greenville*	Mississippi.
DANIEL SAYRE	*Montgomery*	Missouri.
PALMER J. PILLANS	*Mobile*	Nebraska.
OLIVER S. BEERS	*Mobile*	New Jersey.
HENRY C. TOMPKINS	*Union Springs*	New York.
GEORGE D. NORRIS, M. D	*New Market*	North Carolina.
DANIEL SAYRE	*Montgomery*	Nova Scotia.
DANIEL SAYRE	*Montgomery*	Oregon.
ISAIAH A. WILSON	*Union Springs*	Pennsylvania.
GEORGE D. NORRIS, M. D	*New Market*	Tennessee.
NATHANIEL D. CROSS	*Selma*	Texas.
JOHN W. GARRISON, M. D	*Lineville*	West Virginia.
PALMER J. PILLANS	*Mobile*	Wisconsin.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA NEAR OTHER GRAND LODGES.

ELBERT H. ENGLISH	*Little Rock*	Arkansas.
PEDRO ANTONIO GOMEZ	*Rio Janeiro*	Brazil.
SAMUEL B. HARMAN	*Toronto*	Canada.
PHILLIP H. HOOE	*Washington*	District Columbia.
BRACSTON BAKER	*London*	England.
ABRAHAM J. PREVATT	*Jacksonville*	Florida.
WILLIAM A. LOVE	*Atlanta*	Georgia.
JAMES A. HAWLEY	*Dixon*	Illinois.
MARTIN H. RICE	*Indianapolis*	Indiana.
OZIAS P. WATERS	*Muscatine*	Iowa.
GEORGE HUBARD	*Dublin*	Ireland.
THOMAS J. ANDERSON	*Topeka*	Kansas.
CHARLES TILDEN	*Louisville*	Kentucky.
SAMUEL H. TODD	*New Orleans*	Louisiana.
JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND	*Portland*	Maine.
JOHN COATES	*Baltimore*	Maryland.
RICHARD A. JONES	*Rochester*	Minnesota.
FRANK BURKITT	*Okolona*	Mississippi.
JAMES E. CADLE	*Chillicothe*	Missouri.
JAMES W. CHADDOCK	*Nebraska City*	Nebraska.
WILLIAM S. WHITEHEAD	*Newark*	New Jersey.
DANIEL T. WALDEN	*New York*	New York.
DONALD W. BAIN	*Raleigh*	North Carolina.
ROBERT C. FRASER	*Halifax*	Nova Scotia.
JAMES R. BAILEY	*Corvallis*	Oregon.
RICHARD VAUX	*Philadelphia*	Pennsylvania.
TOWNSEND A. THOMAS	*Clarksville*	Tennessee.
EDWARD M. LACKLAND	*Charleston*	West Virginia.
JOSEPH HAMILTON	*Milwaukee*	Wisconsin.

Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Alabama:

It is again, by unexpected contingencies, made the duty (and he esteems it a privilege) of this writer to assume the labors of chairman, temporarily, and again write the annual report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. He approaches the labor in this instance with all the diffidence of former years, being conscious, in spite of the cordial and encouraging greetings of almost every correspondent who has reviewed his deliverances of the past two years, (for which courtesies he begs here to express and tender his grateful acknowledgments), that the duties of correspondent claim a *higher grade* of literary attainments and *more leisure* to analyze, digest and review the important topics presented for consideration, than belong to a *self-educated* and *business occupied* man, for such alone is the writer of this. In *this* report he must also claim consideration and sympathy from his readers because of the intervention during the work of a succession of unexpected and unavoidable hindrances which have rendered his otherwise pleasant labors full of embarrassment and perplexity. It is needless to explain these troubles, so numerous and oft-recurring; suffice it that he has experienced them, and has no wish by repeating to afflict his readers, even sympathetically, with his past troubles—gone are they at length! and we hope have left in their track the lessons of wisdom, which shall fully compensate for the trials experienced.

But enough of self, that intrusive beggar who, like our namesake OLIVER of the TWIST family, is always asking for more—and to our work:

Your committee have received, from the usual source, our R. W. Grand Secretary, the following Reports of the Proceedings of Grand Lodges in correspondence with this Grand Body, to-wit:

Arkansas.....for 1876
British Columbia..... " 1877

California.....for 1876
Colorado..... " 1876
Connecticut..... " 1877
Dakota..... " 1876
Delaware..... " 1876
District of Columbia..... " 1876
Georgia..... " 1876
Florida..... for 1875 and 1876
Illinois.....for 1876
Indiana..... " 1877
Indian Territory..... " 1876
Iowa..... " 1877
Kansas..... " 1876
Kentucky..... " 1876
Louisiana..... " 1877
Maine..... " 1877
Manitoba..... " 1877
Maryland..... " 1876
Michigan..... " 1877
Massachusetts..... " 1876
Mississippi..... " 1876
Minnesota..... " 1877
Montana..... " 1876
Nebraska..... " 1876
Nevada..... " 1876
New Jersey..... " 1877
New Brunswick..... " 1876
New Hampshire..... " 1876
North Carolina..... " 1876
Nova Scotia..... " 1877
Ohio..... " 1876
Oregon..... " 1877
Pennsylvania..... " 1876
Quebec..... " 1876
South Carolina..... " 1876
Tennessee..... " 1876
Texas..... " 1877
Utah..... " 1876
Vermont..... " 1876
Virginia..... " 1876
Washington..... " 1876

West Virginia..... for 1876
Wyoming..... " 1876

In all forty-five reports and comprising our usual list of exchanges except two, those of Canada and Rhode Island being absent from our roll. We hope these valued correspondents will mark us for proper attention in the next distribution of reports and also supply at an early day the deficiency above indicated by forwarding the missing reports, viz: Canada, 1877, Rhode Island, 1876 and 1877. We know from other sources that these Grand Bodies live and prosper, but would prefer to receive our information more direct, to say nothing of the pleasure and profit incident to the perusal of the proceedings. Your committee have examined with care and attentive consideration these numerous and interesting reports, and present annexed their review of the same.

Following the precedents and arrangement of the two past years the writer has again elected (though the plan is not altogether satisfactory) to reproduce, as far as practicable, the opinions expressed by the official organs of other Grand Lodges in their annual reports and messages, as a fair means of acquainting our readers of this Grand Lodge with the work and doings of its correspondents. Our report is therefore essentially an aggregation of the quotations; preserving, however, our *favorite line* of operations by giving preference in all cases to extracts which tend to illustrate and perpetuate the true principles, as well as record the trials and triumphs of *ancient* craft Masonry. The oldest and most honorable institution, devoted to the service of *God* and the elevation of *man*, of which we (this writer) have any knowledge.

If called upon in the future to act in this capacity, time and circumstances favoring, we would prefer to plan our report upon a new basis, to the extent at least of devoting a fair portion of the space, allotted to "correspondence," to the discussion of the principles of Masonry and the conflicting opinions of co-temporaries on Masonic questions yet unsolved; thus more pointedly directing attention to controverted subjects and acquainting the reader with the opinions of ancient Masonic writers on such disputed topics as are of general interest to the Fraternity.

ARKANSAS.

The proceedings of the 38th Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Arkansas, held October the 19th, A. D. 1876, are before us, and claims, as well as merits, our attentive consideration. First on the list in our usual alphabetical arrangement for review, the absence of

the proceedings of this Grand Lodge from our report of last year (when we should have had, but failed to receive, the 37th annual report) was a serious deprivation, and we welcome the present volume the more kindly because of the loss of its predecessor.

The Annual Communication under review, convened at the date above mentioned in the city of Little Rock, Arkansas, and was opened in ample form by M. W. Grand Master M. L. Bell, with all of the Grand officers present and filling their several stations.

THE GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS

Is a creditable and thoughtful production, suggesting sound views of morality and duty, and reviewing with business like method the doings of the year. We quote some of his views on general topics. After deprecating earnestly the materialistic tendency of the age, he says:

"The rapid progress of science in all its branches is astonishing even scientists themselves, and men's minds are being attracted by its astonishing developments, and, to some extent, being drawn away from the more valuable truths of a moral nature; and it behooves all good men to devote themselves to the inculcation of the great truths tending to elevate man's moral nature.

"While we can but rejoice at the material prosperity of our State, the abundant crops, and the general peace and prosperity that reign throughout the land, can we congratulate ourselves upon equal progress in education and refinement, goodness and purity among the people? It has become too much the fashion to say that the world is growing worse, and to regret the good old days of our youth. There are, perhaps, more integrity and religion among the people than there were a half century ago. Because bad men have succeeded in getting into high places, and governments have apparently become corrupt, we must not charge humanity with being more corrupt than formerly. There is much good in the world, though it is modest and does not obtrude itself upon public notice.

The teachings of our noble Order are the same to-day as they were thousands of years ago. Her sacred truths have been silently preserved in the hearts of pure men from age to age, and transmitted unsullied from generation to generation.

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"The plumb, the level and the square teach us the whole moral duty of man to his neighbor and to his God. Properly understood, they preach a sermon that would challenge the eloquence of the greatest pulpit orator of the age. And, yet, what small effect they have upon the conduct and life of the most of us. We go on, continually laboring and toiling in our various avocations of life, accumulating houses and lands and goods, to add comfort to our bodies—laying up stores that are as perishable as the bodies themselves—scarcely giving a thought to the more serious consideration of those interests that affect our more important interests. Man toils and labors, and wears his body away, in the constant effort to accumulate wealth or the honors of the world—all of which vanish with his

own fleeting breath—to the utter neglect of that portion of his nature which continues for eternal ages. How freely man gives of his means to secure that which is visible; how tardily for those benefits which are in the future!

"This constant tendency of man to prefer the material to the moral development of his nature, challenges the attention of the teachers of true wisdom, and it has ever been the mission of our ancient Order to teach man this wisdom. While Masonry teaches industry, and rejoices in the culture of the liberal arts and sciences, and the development of man's intellectual greatness, her great mission now is to cultivate man's moral nature.

"Amid our congratulations on our general prosperity as a State and a people, can we also rejoice in the success and prosperity of our work as Masons? Our sacred tenets, handed down to us from the ancient fathers, have been cherished in the hearts of the faithful brethren We have visited the sick, succored the distressed, relieved the widow, and ministered to the wants of the orphan, and these sacred works are unseen by the world. But have we given as liberally of our means as we should to the advancement of education? Have we founded any hospitals, or built any other monuments of honor to our noble Order? I fear not. We have bestowed a small part of our substance for the benefit of our moral nature, compared with the large sums invested for our bodily comfort."

The Grand Master closes his address (delivered Monday, October 9th, p. m.) thus:

"And now, my brethren, *in taking my official leave of you, and resuming my place in the ranks of the craftsmen*, permit me to congratulate you on the prosperity of the order, the peace and harmony that prevail in all our Lodges, and to thank you for the kindness and brotherly love you have extended to me *while I was your Grand Master*. My duties have been somewhat arduous, but it has been a labor of love, and I sincerely hope I retire from this high position with the love and respect of all my brethren. This is all the reward I claim.

M. L. BELL, *Grand Master*.

And we have italicised that portion of his closing remarks, apparently resigning the gavel, as somewhat *curious* in view of the fact that the Grand Lodge held three sessions afterwards, viz: Tuesday, October 10th, 9 o'clock, a. m., and at 2 and 7 o'clock, p. m., at each of which he presided, officiating at the latter meeting in the important ceremonial of installing the newly elected (say on the 10th, 2 o'clock, p. m.) M. W. Grand Master, M. M. McGuire. He was making his last annual address to, but not *taking "official leave"* of, the Brethren! we opine.

The proceedings of this Communication present few matters of general interest to the craft. We observe, with regret, that St. John's College is still a subject of solicitude to the Grand Lodge, its financial condition, notwithstanding the earnest struggle of its friends to sustain it, suggesting the possible necessity of *leasing* the establishment; which, we take it, would be tantamount to the failure of the enterprise, as a Masonic work

at least. We would deeply regret such a result as discouraging to other jurisdictions, where efforts are being made to educate the orphan, as well as painfully mortifying to our Brethren of Arkansas, who have toiled so resolutely to sustain this noble charity. Brethren of Arkansas, take no step backward in that direction; but "hold the fort."

The "resolution heretofore passed" declaring non-intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Canada, was rescinded and fraternal relations resumed with that Grand Lodge—at the suggestion of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and, at the request of the same committee, the M. W. Grand Lodges of Manitoba, Prince Edward's Island, and Wyoming, were severally "recognized as legally established," and tendered fraternal greetings—while "on motion it was ordered, that the question of recognizing the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory be laid over until" the next Annual Grand Communication—what is the trouble there?

A proposition was made to amend the constitution, so as to provide for a committee on work, to consist of five members appointed for life, "or during good Masonic behavior." This, we presume, is to be submitted to the Lodges for approval. Except in the tenure of office, our's being ten years instead of for life, it is very like the Alabama law on that subject, and we of course approve the movement.

Dispensations for six new Lodges granted.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was penned and presented by Brother George Thornburgh. This is the first report on correspondence from Arkansas that it has been our privilege to acknowledge--as in the proceedings of 1874, reviewed by us in 1875, there was no Report on Foreign Correspondence, and when writing our report of 1876, we had no report at all from that Grand Lodge, as before stated--we are, therefore, unable to compare this with any standard furnished by Brother Thornburgh's predecessors, but we are satisfied with the specimen of work presented in the report under review, and pronounce it "good work and square work."

Brother Thornburgh gives the writer credit for *signing* the report on correspondence (for Alabama, 1875,) but seems doubtful as to its *authorship*, and in expressing that doubt, unwittingly perhaps, pays *us* a compliment, which we think quite undeserved, for we know the measure of our ability as a writer, and it is far below the standard of Brother Walthall's excellence. So, Brother Thornburgh, take back the comparison and permit us to think you meant only to encourage the writer to persevere in a laudable *endeavor* to attain to the perfection of our chairman.

Brother Titcomb's report for 1875 receives honorable mention, its conclusion being quoted with these introductory remarks:

"The Committee on Appeals did its work well, and shows its determination to mete out justice to Masons and Masonry."

He notices approvingly M. W. G. M. Wilson's address for 1875, and quotes approvingly many of its sentiments and decisions.

We have to thank Brother Thornburgh for a very fair, full, and indeed complimentary, review of Alabama's doings in 1875.

We are also indebted to Brother Thornburgh for the pleasant intelligence contained in the annexed extract from his report, and which it affords us real gratification in reproducing as a well deserved tribute to Brother English, irrespective of its kind allusions to Alabama:

Alabama has furnished the greatest Mason Arkansas ever had, and the second to none in any State, to-wit: P.·. G.·. M.·. E. H. English, at present General Grand High Priest of the United States. He was born in Madison county, near Capshaw's Mountain. "in a log cabin." He lived there from his birth (1816) till the year 1844, when he moved to Little Rock, where he now *resides*. He *lives* in the hearts of the Masons of America and the good people of Arkansas.

There is a sweet scripture promise or rather injunction, precious and encouraging to all who labor for the good of man and for the advancement of "truth," to-wit: "Cast thy bread upon the waters and after many days it shall return unto thee," of which we are forcibly reminded by the above incident. Doubtless this Brother was also *born a Mason* in a log cabin, or improvised Lodge room, where a few earnest Craftsmen were laboring, under the difficulties incident to a "new settlement," (such was Madison county and indeed all Alabama at that day) to spread the current of Brotherly Love, and reveal the light of Masonry. In this case the work having been well done "the light shineth more and more."

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. M. M. McGuire.....Grand Master
R. W. George Thornburgh.....Deputy Grand Master
R. W. L. E. Barber.....Grand Secretary

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges	332
Initiated	382
Passed	331
Raised	286
Affiliated	240
Dimitted	412
Died	187

Suspended for non-payment of dues	418
" " u. c.	27
Expelled	22
Reinstated	77
Whole number of enrolled M. M	8,081

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Next in order claims our attention and we present annexed a brief review of the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of that jurisdiction, which convened at Victoria on Saturday, February 17th, A. D. 1877, it being the sixth annual communication thereof.

Present—M. W. Frederick Williams, Grand Master, with other Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, and the Representatives of *seven* Chartered Lodges. The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form, and after the necessary preliminary of a report on credentials, the Grand Master delivered his annual address, which is a short and business like review of the work in that jurisdiction for the preceding year. We extract such portions as will enable our readers to judge somewhat of the condition of the craft and the mode of conducting the work in that far off region governed by our young sister of British Columbia.

After describing in detail the incidents attending his visits to the Subordinate Lodges—(7) seven of the (8) eight Lodges under his care having been specially visited and reported upon—he says:

Our Lodges on the whole are in a prosperous condition, and the statistical reports that will be laid before you, if they do not show any marked increase in membership, the result may be attributable in some measure to the stringency of the times and perhaps also to a closer discrimination as to the proper material for the building. One fact I can assure you of, and that is, that the Order to-day is on a sounder basis than ever before in this jurisdiction; and were the example set the craft in this Province by Ashlar Lodge No. 3, which you are aware was constructed by the junction of Nanaimo Lodge No. 3 and Caledonia Lodge No 6, imitated by the Victoria Lodges, in making two out of the four Lodges, and also acquiring a building of their own, I believe the craft at the capital would not be behind their Nanaimo sister in increased prosperity.

And thus speaks in reference to

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

Our foreign relations remain undisturbed, and in all respects amity and good feelings are maintained between this jurisdiction and all others in the Masonic world.

The following Grand Lodges were formally recognized as recom-

mended, that is to say, the Grand Lodges of Manitoba, Wyoming, Prince Edward Island, Dakota, and Indian Territory.

The Grand Secretary will lay before you a circular received by him asking this Grand Lodge for Masonic recognition of a body styling itself the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Ontario. I would recommend that the subject be referred to the Board of General Purposes for a careful review of the subject. I think they will find many reasons why no Masonic recognition should be accorded them.

Followed by an "excerpt from report of the Grand Lodge of Canada" on the subject of the Ontario *revolt*, and denunciatory of that movement. This subject was, as suggested by M. W. Grand Master, referred to the Board of General Purposes, who do not appear to have reported upon it at the communication under review, and we presume have reserved the matter for their next annual report.

The V. W. Grand Treasurer reports a cash balance of $420 74 current account, and a "widow's and orphan's fund" of $3,096 98.

The V. W. Grand Secretary made an able and interesting report, giving ample statistical information and suggesting needful measures for consideration of the Grand Lodge. Upon the favorable report of the "Board of General Purposes," the following Grand Lodges were by resolution greeted with cordial and fraternal recognition, viz.: The Grand Lodges of "Indian Territory," "Dakota," "Wyoming," "Manitoba," and "Prince Edward's Island."

No Report on Foreign Correspondence, but provision made for such reports in future.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Frederick Williams (re-elected).....Grand Master
V. W. Eli Harrison Jr.....Grand Secretary

(Brother C. M. Chambers, late Grand Secretary, having been elected R. W. Junior Grand Warden.)

STATISTICS.

Number	of Chartered Lodges	8
"	Initiated	18
"	Passed	17
"	Raised	15
"	Affiliated	26
"	Dimitted	14
"	Died	4
"	Of Enrolled M. Masons	312

CALIFORNIA.

The twenty-seventh (27) Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of California was held in the city of San Francisco, Cal., commencing October 10th and closing October 14th, (A. L. 5876) A. D. 1876. Present, with most of the regular Grand Officers in their stations, and Past Grand Officers, and the representatives of one hundred and fifty-seven chartered Lodges, also *delegates from three Lodges under dispensation*(?)

It has been for several years past our pleasant duty to read, digest and comment upon the doings of Grand Lodges as presented in their regular annual reports, and we have reckoned those of California as of special importance and interest in our routine of "inspection and review" heretofore. The present volume is not less interesting than its predecessors, and we greet it with the welcome of former years.

M. W. Grand Master JOHN MILLS BROWNE delivered a very interesting address, treating of many subjects specially important in that jurisdiction, and expressing very forcibly many thoughts applicable to the Fraternity at large. Our appreciation of the ability and utility of this address may, indeed, be inferred from the freedom with which we shall appropriate (by quotations) its sentiments. We quote from the address as follows (using our own "headings,") viz:

CENTENNIAL RETROSPECT.

"One hundred years ago the Federal Convention which framed the Constitution, and the Continental Congress which proclaimed the Declaration, were composed of men who, with few exceptions, were Freemasons. When reiterated oppression had exhausted the patience of submission, when repeated solicitation for amelioration and redress were unheeded or answered by severer and other impositions, when the devotion of loyalty was unrecognized and unrewarded, then, and then only, did these men, united in a bond of brotherhood—a union founded for the relief of mankind—set forth the principles of liberty and equality; liberty which required the protection of intelligence and organization, and equality given by changing loyalty into patriotism, a compelled transfer of allegiance from the king to the people; and to the maintenance of these principles were pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

These brethren, founders of a nation, representing the noblest sentiments in their sympathy with popular sufferings, with no motive save that of fidelity to honest conviction, by the example of patient effort and unremitting sacrifice, and an immovable and beautiful faith, made their followers unyielding to discouragement or defeat, and enabled them, in the excitement of hope, to overcome obstacles almost insuperable and difficulties theretofore inexperienced, so that, with undaunted determination to accomplish and unshaken confidence in the final triumph of right, they obtained a crowning success and secured a liberty of thought and

action which gave birth to the political system which we now possess. The connection between the Fraternity and the history and growth of our country makes it an appropriate mention in this the centennial period of our national existence, and the centenary of civilization in California.

In the retrospect of the past century it would seem that no nation has been more greatly intrusted with destinies which have had universal influence, or has more fully realized "that grand progress which is bearing humanity onwards to a higher intelligence and a nobler character." The march of progress has been noted for the increase of population and area, the extension of agriculture by force of immigration, the enlargement of foreign and domestic commerce, mechanical invention and multiplication of industries, immense products and marvelous mineral resources, wondrous discoveries in science, the application of steam and electricity, the cultivation of the fine arts and literature, the advancement in law, medicine, philosophy, social science, and improvement in every form, the higher standard of education, reformatory schemes for a successful contest with social mischief, the establishment of special institutions for the relief of affliction in its particular forms, and the organization of a variety of societies for charitable purposes, mutual aid and protection, and for the enhancement and refinement of common life. These achievements are prominent tests of a higher and more complete civilization. Surely, it has been a century of development without parallel.

During this period Freemasonry has had an onward, though checkered, course. The itinerant Lodges of the Revolutionary Army, and the few isolated Lodges of particular localities, have been succeeded by Grand Lodges with nearly nine thousand subordinates; members who were limited to hundreds in number, are now counted by hundreds of thousands; and the humble Lodge-rooms have been supplanted by edifices conspicuous for architectural beauty and grandeur. For a brief period fanaticism, hate, and intolerence created a wild anti-Masonic excitement in certain sections with a party that called for the censure and condemnation of Masons; nay, further, for their proscription and exclusion from public office or trust. Bending, not breaking, to the gale which raged with an almost uncontrollable fury, always on guard against menace and peril from without, denounced by church and persecuted by communities, our noble brotherhood awaited the return of reason, firm in the belief that truth in the end would assert itself, and that it would come forth from the storm, crippled perhaps, but more firmly united by bonds made closer by danger and suffering.

DISTURBING CAUSES AND EVILS TO BE OVERCOME.

One has been of general prevalence. I have reference to the lack of attendance at Lodge meetings. Many apparently believe that, without an official position, there is no necessity, duty, nor obligation which requires their presence—little considering the advantage to be derived from counsel or by the display of a zeal that warms and interest that provokes renewed exertion on the part of the Master and his officers to give repute and efficacy to the Lodge, when encouraged and stimulated by the assurance that their efforts are appreciated. Excuses are valued in proportion to their worth, but are worthless when offered by the indifferent, who are not only useless but positively hurtful to the Craft.

Then come the Dronish or holiday Masons, ever on the alert to enjoy a right or privilege, but never working, nor seen with the faithful, except at a banquet or a public ceremony, too lukewarm even to assist in the obsequies of a deceased brother—and these men are Masons. Had they a realizing view of their position, most truly could they acknowledge and exclaim with quaint old THOMAS FULLER, "Lord, I discover an arrant laziness in my soul."

Another class would attend were the workings of the Lodge made more attractive, and this leads directly to the many times repeated recommendation that greater care be taken in the selection of officers, and that those officers be ever active and efficient in duty and affable and considerate in their relations with the brethren. That one is simply a favorite by reason of being a good fellow, in common parlance, is surely no qualification in itself for the important position of Master, but dignity, excellence, and intelligence are essential requisites, combined with a calm and judicial temper. Masters ought to have enough knowledge of the work and lectures to claim and attract attention, and be conversant enough with law and parliamentary usage to have their rulings properly respected and cheerfully obeyed. I would have every Master so well acquainted with his duties that the very feeling of being right will constitute power, and then the brethren, impressed with his knowledge, will be willing to yield a ready obedience. Masters must be Masters in their work of administration, but in the exercise of authority the rights of the governed are to be heeded and protected, and the authority is to be acknowledged and not arrogantly displayed. Responsibilities will be met and confidently treated, if the assurance of being correct comes from sound reasoning, derived from a complete acquaintance with the subject considered. Masters, to receive the respect of others, must so act that they can honestly respect themselves—not only practicing the greater, but the lesser virtues—those amenities which society expects and the gentle in manner perform, and in the exercise of command they should be mindful that to master one's self is the first condition of healthy thought and action.

Much of the discord which at times unfortunately is found in Lodges, and much of the opprobrium cast by the outer world upon our Order, can be traced, without deviation, to the too common practice of receiving improper material into our community. This injury, which is constantly perpetrated, occasions more serious results in its effect upon the position, estimation, and propagation of Masonry than have the anathemas of Rome, or revilement or persecution from whatever source or extent. The standard of qualification is too often departed from, either from hasty acceptation, careless investigation of character, or the mistaken policy of seeking quantity rather than quality. It has happened that a paucity of funds in the treasury has caused a lenity that otherwise would not pertain, contrary to the rigor that ought always to have enforcement. Again, it should be remembered that there are other objects sought to be attained by our institution besides making Masons, which is too commonly regarded as the main object. Candidates ought to possess positive not negative traits, and be estimated for the good done rather than the evil avoided. As long as these causes exist, the effect will continue; but could this noxious element be removed, no greater advantage could be acquired. Every Lodge is responsible to the Fraternity for the quality of material furnished: it has the inspection and the shaping, and if im-

perfections are discovered, the blame of acceptance rests with the Lodge. The remedy for this diseased condition will be found in the refusal of the individual brother, or the committee, to recommend until sufficient time or trouble is taken to scrutinize reputation, ascertaining not only the recent but the remote conduct of the applicant; for there can be no excuse for any negligence or haste, and no permissible avoidance of the duty, in every case which presents a doubt, to give the benefit of the doubt to the Fraternity.

Another cause that disturbs, and to some extent paralyzes, the action of Lodges is the indiscriminate or persistent use of the black-ball in cases which show it to be the effect of prejudice and the manifestation of power used to gratify an ignoble feeling; and it is the peculiarity and misfortune of some Lodges to be placed under circumstances such as these. It is a necessity, nay, further, it is an obligatory duty to employ the black ball in every case where a requisite qualification is wanting; but I do not hesitate to pronounce the act, when resulting from personal or private motives exclusively, in its application to the worthy, as selfish, illiberal, uncharitable and unmasonic, and I think that no impartial brother will deny the assertion. Let us instance a case. A petitioner, who, although possessed of a sufficiency of good qualities to authorize his reception, has, in some manner and at some time, so incurred the displeasure of a brother that the latter, actuated solely by personal dislike, casts the negative vote, and thus deprives a proper man of Masonic advantages and the Lodge of an additional worthy member. Or, as has occurred, a brother, disappointed in his ambition for preferment, or because some intimate friend has been rejected, or because certain proceedings are in opposition to his views, determines that none shall be admitted, rejoices in his power to inflict injury and continuously exercises it, and thus permits his petty malice to interrupt harmony, clog and weaken action, while he continues the mischief, regardless of the soreness and murmuring within the Lodge and of its unhappy reputation without. This is no exaggeration, no supposable case, but a reality. Oh, would that such a brother might have sympathy to make his views just and charitable and exercise forgiveness, the essence of brotherhood, and in self-denial acquire a self-mastery, so that he may not suffer a private pique to reject when the united will of the brethren would elect. The direct remedy for this not unfrequent grievance is in the keeping of this unmasonic Mason, but a more careful selection of material in the future will obviate the necessity for a remedy.

A common cause of trouble is the tardy or non-payment of dues, the former producing pecuniary embarrassment, and the latter, at times, certain complications incident to the death of a suspended member.

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Mention is made of the feeble attendance at funerals, but I have not been informed of any diminution of members at banquets. We all have to confess, at some period of our Masonic life, to have been humiliated in witnessing funerals where the absence, or the apparently reluctant presence of brethren, was noticed and remarked upon by the criticising profane. It is rightly to be expected that every member who can, will attend, and it is greatly to be regretted that a meagre attendance is sufficiently common to cause these remarks.

We also quote a few of his most important

DECISIONS:

That in a case where two members of the committee reported favorably at two stated meetings upon the petition of a candidate, and the other member, being absent, instructed a brother to report unfavorably for him, it was proper to proceed to ballot, as all reports must be made in writing, and the power of reporting verbally cannot be delegated to a proxy.

That a hump-backed person, in all other respects of natural physical conformation, is eligible for initiation, as the words "not deformed" in the General Regulations should be restricted to those cases where the deformity amounts to an inability to meet the requirements of the ritual; which construction is supported by the remainder of the sentence, inasmuch as the deformity of a hump-back does not prevent his ability "to conform literally to what the several degrees require," and this explanation is consistent with the spirit of our institution.

I was obliged to reprove a Lodge for habitually receiving applications for the degrees without the accompanying fees, it being in direct opposition to the requirements of the statute. As a probable result of such irregularity, an embarrassment had occurred, and my decision being solicited in consequence, the occasion was improved to acquaint the Lodge that no repetition of the disobedience must occur, else it would be my painful duty to subject it to discipline.

In several instances my attention has been called to the fact that when one Lodge had assisted a member of another, and forwarded a bill for the sum expended, no reply to the notification was received until my letter asking for an explanation of the remissness had caused the response. As the chief object of our society is to relieve its suffering members, and as assistance rendered by one Lodge to a member of another is only doing that which it would have done to one of its number under a like circumstance, it appears singular that there should ever occur a delay in the courteous acknowledgment of the aid bestowed, even if it be a question as to the duty, propriety, or ability of paying for the same. Frequently it is burdensome and annoying for a Lodge to have calls made upon its treasury in favor of an indifferent, or perhaps worthless member, who is delinquent for dues and may have been uniformly inattentive to his duties as a Mason; but if that member is suffered to continue delinquent, unworthy, and remiss, the fault lies in his Lodge in permitting him to remain in good standing; and when, it may be, by his own vices and inherent worthlessness, he becomes distressed and a subject for charity, the sister Lodge in whose vicinity he is found, in bestowing needful comfort in the knowledge that he is borne a member of a neighboring Lodge, ought at least to receive a due recognition of its fraternal action, even if it is eventually learned that the object thereof was unworthy.

NO BANQUETS FROM LODGE FUNDS.

I have been obliged in two instances to caution officers against the expenditure of Lodge funds for suppers or other festivities, given either to compliment newly installed officers, or to interest and draw brethren from their supineness, or even to excite the curiosity and attract the attention

of the sociable profane, with intent to derive therefrom numerical and financial advantage. I had only to refer to the action of the Grand Lodge in 1873, making Lodges gather and hold their funds for the promotion of purposes strictly Masonic, with emphatic prohibition of any disbursement not in accord with such purposes; and I directed that henceforth Lodge moneys must be so held that if festivities are wanted and had, the participants alone must be responsible for the cost.

The M. W. Grand Master not only cherishes existing charitable organizations, but recommends additional effort in that direction by adding a "widow's and orphan's fund," as follows:

You will be presented with the reports of the San Francisco and other Masonic Boards of Relief, exhibiting amounts received, numbers relieved, and the actual financial condition, the truest criterion of the labor performed and results obtained by these our only regularly organized charitable associations. As we advance in population so the calls for aid have proportionate increase, necessitating enlarged sources of revenue; and hence you will readily understand why the fields of action are broader and why additional means are required now more than in the past. Be not unmindful of the disinterested activity of the disbursers of these charities and of their continued efforts and patient investigations to discriminate between the deserving and the unworthy, and thus to judiciously execute their trust. Therefore, let your appreciation of the services given be shown in the confidence and encouragement afforded by liberal supplies. Established in early days for the benefit of distressed brethren, either to remove immediate need or to aid in the procurement of employment, with no national, sectional, nor local preference, these Boards of Relief have been maintained until the present, and thus far we have no developed plan for any other system. If, as I hope, I may have carried with me some degree of your concurrence in these opinions, I can confidently expect that the yearly appropriation will be increased.

I have recommended liberal appropriations for charitable disbursements, recognizing therein the realization of the great law of duty to help the unfortunate, so eminently characteristic of the primary object of our society, which aims at practical rather than ideal excellence, and inculcates the giving of real benefits in place of sentimental sympathy to the destitute or suffering. It has been happily said that "coin is the sinews of war," and in this age of usefulness, when one is ever looking for results, coin is as essential to the propagation of Masonic principles, and their exhibition in practice consonant with theory, as it is for the successful accomplishment of any public or private enterprise. No matter how beautiful may be the theory, it is the application which determines its worth, and the profane's opinion of Masonry will naturally be formed by a knowledge of its acts in agreement with, or in opposition to, its professions. These remarks are but prefatory to the enunciation of the proposition that the Grand Lodge ought to accumulate funds, the expenditure of which would demonstrate the advantage and utility of Free-Masonry; and the capital and cardinal point of the proposition is that the time has arrived when this Grand Lodge ought to have a Widow's and Orphan's Fund. This topic is, in my belief, of deep moment and worthy of your careful consideration; and in the exercise of your guard-

ianship of the subordinate Lodges, the example given would, I think, have a fruitful imitation. I will offer no suggestions regarding the source from whence this fund is to emanate—this and all details pertaining to its establishment being reserved for after thought—only introducing the subject to your notice, inviting your action, and, if approved, relying upon your wisdom to devise means for its creation and continuance.

These (the above) are excellent views, and touch us in a very tender spot. What is Masonry without *charity?* and how can we be charitable without preparation, method, and arrangement? The work of benevolence is peculiarly a *Masonic duty*, and yet that duty cannot be performed fully and truly without pre-arrangement and organization, such as is implied in the creation of "Funds" devoted to specific charity—*the product of united effort.*

He alludes in the following happily expressed eulogy to the death of

PAST GRAND MASTER CHARLES MARSH,

"Who died on the 28th of April, 1876, alluding to him as a pioneer in citizenship and in Masonry, and closely identified with interests pertaining to the commonwealth and to the Fraternity. His devotion to the honor and welfare of the Craft, his sturdy and unyielding championship for its cause, and his earnest labors for its successful progress, enabled him to merit and receive its highest honors. Gifted with clear, strong, good sense, pure in personal qualities, a combination of intellectual and moral rectitude, he with credit presided over the counsels and administered the affairs, at different times, of the several Grand Bodies in this jurisdiction. You will gratefully remember his constant attendance at this Grand Lodge, and the ability and fidelity which characterized his disposition of questions appertaining to jurisprudence and finance; and you will recall his cordiality of manner and unaffected kindness of heart, with a presence, not showy nor superficial, but amiable, as if actuated by a generous nature, and reliable, as if supported by fearless truthfulness. His own nature was of a gentle, humane, unselfish quality—modest, earnest, and steadfast—faithful to friends, charitable to opponents, and always active in human duty. His life was a solid good to societies founded for benevolence."

And touchingly announces also the recent death of

P. D. G. M. BENJ. HORTON FREEMAN,

Of whom he thus speaks:

He also was a pioneer, and during his long and prosperous career in this State, was closely allied with religious, political, and benevolent as-

sociations. For five years as Master of *California* Lodge No. 1, and as a member and President of the Masonic Board of Relief of San Francisco, possessed of an amiable quality of temper, cordial address, and sincerity of purpose and action, he gave earnest and valuable labors for the advancement and prosperity of these institutions. His long and faithful attachment to the Craft was acknowledged and rewarded by you in successively making him Junior and Senior Grand Warden and Deputy Grand Master; and you know the fidelity with which he filled these offices and discharged their important trusts. His habits were simple, frugal, and temperate. In the pursuit of the practical, he employed thrift and methodized life; upright and honest, he was a useful and respected citizen; morally strong and religiously steadfast, he was devoted to the Fraternity, and in adhering to its teachings and principles, he was a good Mason.

The Grand Master's Address closes with an appropriate apostrophy to Masonry, with an extract from which we close our quotations, viz.:

Freemasonry, while it has always placed itself in hostile army against intolerance, dogmatism, and bigotry, is ever in accord with the progressive spirit of the age. Entertaining no views of impracticable and impossible conditions, it does not pretend to settle questions which agitate political and religious communities—its actual mission being to preserve its own undeviating course. Men and actions are judged with equanimity; moral instructions are inculcated; and in its very nature it is essentially in harmony with the declaration of natural and revealed religion. Strong in the assertion of its own truth, it is the uncompromising enemy of falsehood; and, having nothing to defend in the past, it steadfastly adheres to a prescribed course, and in its vitality and durability sees nothing to fear in the future. It cherishes that which is good, true, and right, awarding to each a proper value, and has an ideal of social perfection, to the attainment of which it incites high ennobling thoughts, and a sense of moral responsibility, and thus in the enforcement of the pure and the beautiful, prepares for the "life beyond life."

The report of the V. W. Grand Secretary, Alex. Gurdon Abell, is, as usual with his official papers (including his inimitable Minutes of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge), *able*, comprehensive, and exhaustive.

To say more is *needless* to say less were *truthless*.

We are glad to find that Brother Abell is still "master of the situation," as regards Lodge "returns," and can as aforetime close his report with the assurance:

For many years past the undersigned has been able to report that the returns from all the Lodges had been received, and that their dues had all been paid. He is not less fortunate this year, and he congratulates the Grand Lodge upon the ready promptitude of a very large proportion of its subordinates, and upon the willing response of the remainder to the persuasive epistles of its corresponding officer.

All which is respectfully submitted by

ALEXANDER G. ABELL,
Grand Secretary.

The report of Brother James Laidly, V. W. Grand Treasurer, exhibits a balance in the Treasury of $5,664 49, after the usual liberal disbursements, an increase of some $2,400 00 over the balance of the previous report (1875).

We observed, in reading the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of California, many excellencies in the reports of officers and committees, which we had marked for comment, but find it impossible to do so in detail, for want of space, and reluctantly forego that pleasure.

Brother John H. C. Borte, Acting Grand Orator, appointed to fill that position (in the absence of Brother Aaron A. Sargent, Grand Orator elect, detained by his duties in the Senate of the United States), delivered an excellent, yea, eloquent, address on (what we term) the

CO-RELATION OF MASONRY AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS,

From which we extract a few beautiful thoughts, eloquently and forcibly expressed:

* * * * * * * * * *

But we are not content with negations, for Masonry is related to other organizations in a kindly and more affectionate manner. We do not mean that the Order professes to go out of its way with unctuous promises of fellowship, for Masonry promises the world but one thing—that it will mind its own business. The make-up of Masonry, the principles and practical work of the Order, are pre-eminently co-operative with all other organizations that have the welfare of man at heart. The Order, especially in all new countries, is the efficient forerunner of all organizations, as is proved by the facts of history and the nature of Masonic principles. The pioneers of California left behind them everything not needed for mere bodily sustenance; they stripped themselves for a hand-to-hand wrestle with nature, and grappled with all the difficulties of a life at that time unknown to our race. Both Church and State were impossible things, but the Masonic Lodge was a natural and easy efflorescence.

In this aboriginal state, Masonry taught men reverence for God and filial trust in His providence, and enforced among thousands a recognition of the claims of the Divine Government. Young men were received into Lodges and constantly reminded of the teachings of sainted mothers, while their hearts were kept fresh awaiting the arrival of the sacraments and ordinances of the Church. The Lodge-room, in camps and canons, in villages and towns, furnished young and old with a place of refuge, a substitute for the saloon and the gambling den, turning thousands from the open gates of social hells. In the absence of thorough organization in the State government, Masonry served as a moral police, remonstrating, persuading—creating a public opinion in favor of good citizenship. Nor did Masonry, in the absence of school and college, fail, by charges and lectures, to keep alive the love of learning. Are we not right in saying that Masonry was the efficient forerunner of the Church, the Family, the State, the School, the College? And when these organizations came, Ma-

sonry, with graceful dignity, yielded them all the ground they could occupy, and its members were foremost in the councils of Church and State—mighty factors in the development of educational systems.

But further: Masonry, by its very constitution, spirit, and work gives positive re-enforcement to all good institutions, and is to-day a training-school which furnishes a culture not elsewhere attainable; a training without which neither Church nor State, science nor philosophy, can further go. The first century of our national life was a reaction against that spirit and method of organization which had overwhelmed individualism and made man a dead cog in a living wheel, an automaton in the hands of skilled manipulators; it was a revolt against that tyranny of organization which furnished men with principles, opinions, opportunities, and massed them to unthinking toil.

The logic of history, the natural evolution of principles, the providence of God, and the conditions of our people, imposed upon this child of the world's old age, the duty of emancipating the individual personality of man; and the nation was in perfect sympathy with its task from the hour of its birth. In sturdy self-reliance, and with trust in God, our people grappled with the wilderness, to conquer, each for himself, a kingdom where he might be master. And the pioneers, from the surf of the Atlantic to the shores of the Pacific, raised and trained sons and daughters who rejoiced in their untrammeled individual life. Grand indeed has been the success of this sublime revolt against the despotisms of former ages. All honor to this emancipated personality which absorbs the vitalities of nature and hesitates at no encounter, whether it be with the laws of nature or the battalions of consolidated despotisms.

But, alas, we have shot beyond the mark, we have overleaped ourselves, and produced an excess of individualism that threatens us with the loss of all our gains. This excess of individualism is the very essence of disorganization—disorganization in thought and work; and disorganization is death. Crowned with success in gigantic enterprise, this excessive individualism ventures in speculative thought where trained intellects dare not tread, and raises the question whether there is any value in human experience, any truth in aggregated thought, any growth and coherency in principles. This self-willed individualism declares that it is competent to inaugurate new and original systems of science, religion, and philosophy; it knows no ancient landmarks, but claims creative power in every department of thought.

As a natural result of this revolt against the historic connections of thought, the fundamental relations of principles, we have, as a people, no longer fixed convictions in politics, religion, morals, or science. In other words, this rampant individualism has lost its way, wanders in a white fog of profound uncertainty, and is the forerunner of decay. And still further, this excess of individualism threatens us with a universal insubordination and inability to co-operate in the affairs of life. Our young men too often recoil from business because unwilling to be subjected to the exacting laws of trade. Husbands and wives are discordant and divorces are frequent because of an excess of individualism. At the same time the increasing density of our population and the decrease of individual opportunity, exact of our people a degree of associated effort which requires the drill and training of a soldier in the ranks. Can we train this excessive individualism to just subordination to the laws of thought

and the requirements of associated effort, without weakening that grand personal vitality of which we are so justly proud? This is the problem of the second century of our national life.

As Free and Accepted Masons we boldly claim that our Order inculcates principles and practices that are pre-eminently corrective of these excesses; that its very essence is just subordination; that Masonry is a training-school which drills personality without affecting its just independence. As a matter of fact, the Order receives men from every department of life, trains them to co-operative habits, and sends them back to their work, capable of knowing their place and station, capable of manly obedience. And thus we find that Masonry is indeed co-operative in its character; that it lends a helping hand to every human organization; that it gives a blessing to all associated life. Aye, Masonry is a training-school for an age which needs training more than it needs vitality—an age whose vigor outruns its power of combination. If we are right in our premises and facts, Masonry is one of the civilizing forces of our age, and stands as a co-worker with other organizations, helpful to all, antagonistic to none.

A few words more, and I shall leave with you these rudely framed suggestions, and deposit in your hands this rough ashlar, trusting that it may become, by your own patient elaboration, a perfect stone, fit for some place in the temple of Masonic thought.

Most Worshipful Grand Master and brethren of the Grand Lodge, we are living under conditions unknown to our fathers, and not fully comprehended by ourselves. The populations of the earth constitute, in this age, but one nation, for humanity is now governed more by occult principles, good and bad, than by hierarchies. Systems strongly pushed in America, touch the life of the world; principles broached in one place, penetrate the center and circumference of human existence; ideas which once wrought among isolated nations, now invade the whole compass of human thought; and to-day, all the systems that the world has ever known are engaged in subtle conflict everywhere, each with all the rest.

The report on Foreign Correspondence presented by Bro. William Hill, chairman, who after an interregnum of two years resumes the reportorial chair so ably filled by him in former years. This report reviews the proceedings of fifty-two Grand Lodges, and is in style and matter worthy of the well earned reputation of its author and constitutes a notable feature of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of California for 1876. We almost envy Bro. Hill his easy flow of pleasant and judicious commentary on the subjects claiming his attention in this report, and have read it with both pleasure and profit.

He reviews the proceedings of Alabama, 1875, at some length and with very acceptable courtesy; comments upon the annual address of M. W. Grand Master Wilson as "rather brief but well written," reproducing as of general interest many of his official decisions. We thank Bro. Hill for his pleasant words of recognition and encouragement to the writer in his first essay as a reporter as well as for the publicity given to the sentiments

of that report by his free quotations therefrom—and though cautioned by his modesty to desist, cannot refrain from reproducing his kindly greeting, as follows;

The Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence was Bro. W. T. Walthall, but his pressing duties preventing the preparation of the annual report, the task fell upon another member—Bro. Oliver S. Beers—who commences with an humble apology. This, however, was unnecessary, for the paper before us is evidence that the "mantle of Elijah" had fallen upon the shoulders of a well qualified Elisha. The report occupies one hundred and thirty pages of the proceedings, and is not one page too long. It is as well written and as able a review as we have found. The proceedings of forty-three Grand Lodges are presented, that of California for 1874 among the number.

All too partial though it be. From these low grounds of the Gulf coast may this pleasant HILL episode lure our hesitating feet to attempt to scale even the heights of California attainments.

But we have lingered already too long at the Golden Gate and must on to other pressing duties:

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. John Mills Brown, M. D., (re-elected).....Grand Master.
V. W. Alex. Gurdon Abell.....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges	198
" U. D	3
" Initiated	580
" Passed	600
" Raised	650
" Affiliated	543
" Died	156
Whole number of enrolled M. M	11,931

COLORADO.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Colorado convened at Denver, on Tuesday, the 19th day of September, A. D., 1876, holding on that and the following day its Sixteenth Annual Communication.

Present—M. W. Grand Master Oren H. Henry, who opened the Grand Lodge in AMPLE FORM, assisted by all Grand Officers in their several

stations, and Representatives of Seventeen Subordinate Lodges, many visiting Brethren, and several P. Grand officers, participating in the ceremonials. The proceedings of this Communication are presented in a neat and handsomely printed pamphlet of some 56 pages, exclusive of the Constitution and By-Laws, comprising the appendix. The business claiming the attention of the Grand Lodge appears to have been of such a character as to have been easily dispatched in two days, though we note that the Committee, in charge of that important subject, recommended the postponement until the next session of the "feasible proposition" for the establishment of a "MASONIC ASYLUM."

We hope the Asylum project will not be lost in the "rubbish," and shall expect also to hear something more of the admirable project reported in 1875 for building a Masonic Temple, which we noted approvingly in our last review. The funds of the Grand Lodge are evidently increasing, as we gather from the judicious report of the Committee on Finance, recommending the loan of $2,000 00 from available balance in the "general fund." That is right; make it grow by earnings; but it will grow faster and more healthily, Brethren, if you adopt some useful and legitimate *object* for its ultimate appropriation—such as the "ASYLUM TEMPLE" for instance.

A report and motion to appropriate money to the "Washington National Monument Association" elicited considerable discussion, but the subject was finally postponed indefinitely.

The Grand Lodges of Dakota, Manitoba, Prince Edwards Island, and Indian Territory, were recognized and "gladly welcomed."

The address of the M. W. Grand Master is concise and well written. We quote the following as a specimen of his style and matter, viz:

I am happy to say that all is harmony and peace within our borders. The Lodges are with hardly an exception in a prosperous condition, and the order is steadily increasing in strength and influence. Its beneficent power is exerted in a thousand ways, diffusing its blessings on all who come within its sphere. Though venerable with age and enriched by the history and traditions of a remote past, it exhibits to-day all the freshness of a renewed youth. Though the most conservative of human institutions, it adapts itself to every changing condition of life, and is in full accord with the newest developments of modern society. Based on the broadest foundations underlying the nature of man, no change of country or lapse of time can destroy its symmetry, impair its beauty, or weaken its influence. It comes to every man with a restraining, ennobling and sustaining power. It tenders to him its powerful aid in his endeavors for self-improvement. It encourages and assists him in his efforts for success, and in his hour of affliction and adversity, comes with gentle sympathy to comfort his sorrows, and with ever ready help to relieve his needs. When illness invades his frame, assiduous ministrations of

masonic brethren solace his sufferings, and when it pleases the Supreme Ruler to call him hence, masonry stands ready to soothe his final moments and tenderly commit his mortal remains to the bosom of mother earth. While his departure is comforted by the assurance that the widow and the orphan shall find a sure protection in her ever present care. Thus in life and in death our institution stands the bounteous source of blessing to mankind.

No Report on Foreign Correspondence.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Harper M. Orahood.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Ed. C. Parmelee, (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges		22
	(with one U. D.)	
"	Initiated	126
"	Passed	109
"	Raised	99
"	Rejected	63
"	Affiliated	117
"	Dimitted	60
"	Died	10
"	Enrolled M. M's.	1,413

CONNECTICUT.

The eighty ninth (89th) Grand Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut convened in the city of New Haven, on Wednesday, the 17th of January, A. D., 1877. Present—M. W. E. B. Rowe, Grand Master, with associate Grand Officers, and "representatives of a quorum of Lodges"—opened in ample form.

The annual address of M. W. G. Master Rowe is a plain and sensible message, rehearsing the events of the year and suggesting needed legislation.

He expresses with fervent thanks the gratitude due to *Almighty God* for manifold blessings, enumerating among others these special mercies, viz:

That he hath given us a spring-time of promise and a harvest of plenty.

That he hath permitted us to live in this our country's centennial year, when, as a nation, we have opened our doors to the Powers of the world,

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bidding them hospitable entrance to our land, our institutions, and our homes.

That the peace and harmony among the craft prevails to an unusual degree, not alone within our own jurisdiction, but throughout our land and the world.

That Freemasonry, notwithstanding continued and bitter attacks are made by the skeptical and bigoted of all lands, to-day shines forth brighter and better, a wonderful exemplification of the surety of her foundations and the immortality of her great principles, Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

He refers feelingly to the death of R. W. G. S. D. Alfred J. Bethel, as that of a "noble and true friend and Brother," occurring under "painful circumstances."

His official acts and visitations are recounted with proper recommendations and renewedly commends to the Grand Lodge the "MASONIC CHARITY FOUNDATION FUND," which we regret to observe had, after urgent appeals extending over several years, only reached a total of $1,839 06. The Grand Master is evidently not pleased with the responses to his appeals in behalf of this fund.

He speaks of the application of the "Gran Logia De La Isla De Cuba—Habana" for recognition, and suggests doubts of the propriety of encouraging two Grand Lodges in one State, though evidently inclined to make an exception to the general rule in favor of CUBA. We quote his remarks on that subject, viz:

The unity of the Brethren in a state under one Grand Lodge has always been held desirable; a division into two or more has been considered deplorable. American Masons have been educated to principles of self-government and unity, and hold that the Brethren in a state are not truly Brethren, unless united under one Grand Lodge.

An eminent Mason and writer upon this subject says, "Whenever competing Grand Lodges have existed in a community, the standard of Masonry has been lowered as a consequence of rivalry, and the Masonic subordination been sadly demoralized."

The Grand Lodge of Cuba, however, present claims that at once appeal to our sympathies and sense of Masonic justice, and although seceders from the Grand Lodge of Colon, are entitled to the careful hearing and consideration of their Masonic Brethren throughout the world. A proper conclusion would be arrived at, it seems to me, by a satisfactory solution of this question: Shall the Grand Lodges of the York Rite ignore the Lodges of the Scotch Rite (where the first degrees are conferred) to recognize a body of seceders from the Scotch Rite, who desire to be acknowledged by the first-named?

I submit to your careful consideration the papers accompanying the Grand Lodge of Cuba, not doubting your disposition to so legislate, that exact justice shall be meted to all concerned.

He notices judiciously some conflicting questions of jurisdiction be-

tween Connecticut and New York, as well as occasions for the exercise of the highest prerogatives of his office in treating with Subordinates. He evidently combines the "*suaviter in modo* with the *fortiter in re*," nor is he afraid of censure or responsibility. Witness his closing remarks:

It has always been a pleasure to me to grant the requests of the Brethren, when I could do so without conflicting with duty. *The* unpleasant feature of your Grand Master's position *is*, that when duty requires an official act, he must lay aside every personal consideration. My aim has been to impartially administer the law and spirit of Masonry; and to maintain the dignity of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut, has been my constant care. For my official acts I assume the responsibility, and I ask of this Grand Lodge a decided *expression*, either of approval, or the contrary.

We find nothing in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut under review, beyond the subjects referred to in our extracts from the M. W. Grand Master's address, of general interest; indeed the session was devoted almost exclusively to matters of local significance and routine work.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Edward B. Rowe, (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Joseph K. Wheeler, (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... (and 1 U. D.)		118
"	Initiated.....	461
"	Passed.....	471
"	Raised.....	468
"	Rejected.....	151
"	Affiliated.....	91
"	Reinstated.....	27
"	Dimitted.....	142
"	Stricken from Roll.....	193
"	Died.....	145
"	Enrolled M. M's.....	15,011

DAKOTA.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Dakota met in its Second Annual Com-

munication, in the city of Yankton, on Tuesday, June 13th, 1876, and was opened in ample form by M. W. Grand Master Thomas Henderson Brown, assisted by Grand Officers (regular and *pro tem*) in their stations, and the representatives of six Chartered Lodges.

The proceedings before us are *externally* inviting, being bound in handsomely colored paper with neatly printed title, but *internally* the print is *marred* by constantly recurring *oblong figures* representing the *word Lodge* or Lodges. The address of the M. W. Grand Master which would otherwise, and printed in better style, have afforded us pleasant reading, is rendered almost distasteful by these oft repeated oblong signs of the idea Lodge. It is essentially a Hieroglyphical production! The Grand Master speaks pleasantly and encouragingly of affairs in Dakota—albeit there is a spec of cloud in the horizon, caused by two Lodges holding to the jurisdiction of another Grand Lodge in defiance of the rights and dignity of our young sister of Dakota. This difficulty MINNESOTA could and should aid in removing, and doubtless will do so. Grand Master Brown is a little afflicted with the *centennial* gush, and has taken somewhat to negro Masonry "ala" Ohio, and yields too much, we think, to the precedents established by *Foreign Grand Bodies.*

The inspiration of independence renewed by centennial reminiscences and associations may make us generous to the oppressed, struggling for the right against might; but our sympathies must not be permitted to overstep the bounds of law and *justice*, nor force us to recognize that which only arrogates, without professing claims to our Masonic consideration and recognition. The Hessians were not the special friends of freedom in 1776, and we have no reason in 1876 to attribute to them any special love for American institutions. We think the action of the "*German Grand Lodge League*," by interposing in the controversy as to the legitimacy of the colored Masonic element here, is an unfair, unfriendly, as well as reckless and unfortunate interference with a domestic controversy which should be resented rather than praised by our brethren whose hearts are aglow with centennial fires. Our sympathies are with the American Grand Lodges. New York and Pennsylvania for instance, who are fighting manfully against German interference with American rights and Masonic proprieties if not liberties.

Apart from the M. W. Grand Master's address, the proceedings contain but little of interest or suggesting comment.

No Report on Correspondence.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. H. H. Blair ..... Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Mark W. Bailey ..... Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges 6
" of Master Masons, (Enrolled) 241

DELAWARE.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Delaware held its Seventieth (70th) Annual Grand Communication, in the city of Wilmington, on the 4th and 5th days of October, A. D., 1876. The proceedings reach us in a neatly printed pamphlet of 75 pages, from which we gather such items as appear to us of general interest, remarking that the business transacted was for the most part routine work, having reference to local affairs mainly.

The Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE form by M. W. Grand Master George W. Chaytor, whose annual address is an able and comprehensive message, treating of many subjects of material interest, including finances, and extending his reviews to several topics of importance to the craft everywhere, including "*colored Masons*"—or as we prefer to call them *negro Masons;* that being in our estimation a more appropriate as well as more respectful designation, as will readily occur to any one who appreciates the dignity attaching to the idea of RACE.

He is strong and even denunciatory in stating his objections to "new day-new duty" departure of our (as we think erring) brethren of Ohio, and we quote some of his remarks on that subject, viz:

* * * * * * * * *

Here you observe the Grand Master of Ohio pleading for the recognition of a body whose rise and progress has long since been impartially traced and given to the Craft; and it appears marvelous that so distinguished a Mason should be ignorant of so familiar a fact, contrary to the almost universal, I think I may say universal opinion, (except a few *sporadic* Masons,) he calls them *legal in every sense of the term.* I regret very much the opening up of this dangerous matter, but hope the members of the Ohio Grand Lodge will, at the communication this month, bury the thing so deep that "resurrection cannot reach it."

I wish my brethren to understand that my remarks are not made or my opinion based upon the grounds of *color* or *race*, for Masonry has nothing to do with either. Our *land-marks* define who shall be Masons, and by these laws we are governed.

* * * * * * * * *

No matter how honest and sincere the present bodies of negro Masons

may be, they are to all intents and purposes clandestine. And it is needless for me to say to you that clandestine lodges are without the pale of recognition by regular Grand Lodges or their subordinates. The action already taken by the Grand Lodge of Ohio is in violation of law, usage, and custom, and that if any such step had been taken by one of our lodges it would cause its charter to be arrested and all the members taking part therein to expulsion.

It is quite evident that Brother Chaytor intends to abide by and enforce the "landmarks" in their full integrity. He appointed a commissioner to visit the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland to obtain information "on masonic matters," and establish reciprocal interchanges of reports, etc. From this mission a little "unpleasantness" resulted, as will be seen in the annexed extract from his address, viz:

* * * * * * * * *

In his visit to the Grand Lodge of England, I regret he was so unfortunate as not to meet the Grand Secretary, who I have every reason to believe is a *gentleman* and a Mason. The person present, and representing himself as the *factotum* of the office, was a fair example of what one conceives to be the character of such a creature. He was rude in his manner and grossly disrespectful to the Representative of this Grand Lodge, and consequently to the Grand Lodge. Bro. Mynich learned that his name was *Buss.*

What a name!

In Scotland and Ireland his receptions were very different. There he was fortunate to meet not only Masons but gentlemen who extended to him every courtesy in their power. For which I beg leave to return my acknowledgments.

Some English writer delineates a character whose objectionable traits are suggestively embodied in the name of *Buss-fuss*—perhaps the Buss, alluded to by our Bro. of Delaware, inherited his *fussy* rudeness from this distinguished ancestor.

He favors the "Mutual Masonic Benefit Association," as organized in Baltimore, and we are not at all disinclined to try some such substitute for the old plan of life insurance. This matter was a few years ago quite favorably spoken of by prominent Masons in Alabama, and to bring it again to their attention we quote a portion of Grand Master Chaytor's remarks on the subject:

It has the character of a life insurance, but unlike such it is free from delays and doubts. Each member is required to pay an initiation fee, small in amount, which constitutes a fund for covering the necessary expenses of printing, salary of Secretary, &c. Whenever a member of the association dies all the living members are assessed two dollars and ten cents, which must be paid within a given time. The two dollars make up the fund for the deceased member's heirs, and the ten cents is to cover the expense attending the collection. Thus the amount to be paid to the heirs will depend entirely upon the numerical strength of the Society.

To illustrate—suppose the membership, at the time the death is reported, numbered one thousand (1,000), the amount paid to the heirs would be two thousand dollars ($2,000). The heirs do not have to await the collection, for by the aid of the initiation fee and former collection there is always a fund from which the amount is drawn, and replaced by the amount paid on the assessment. As the fund is placed at interest the expenses are met largely by the interest received.

His decisions are numerous and unobjectionable, and we especially commend his very full and instructive deliverance, from which we quote a few sentences on the subject of the

"BALLOT."

* * * * * * * * *

There has been and still is too much looseness of opinion with regard to the sacred right of the ballot, I fear; and will take occasion to say a few words upon the subject. I can conceive of no duty that devolves upon us as Masons so truly important, and which should awaken in our minds such conscientious considerations as the use of the ballot. The principle established and universally acknowledged is that profound secrecy should govern that act. No one can demand how a Mason votes, and he is strictly forbidden to reveal the act. in other words he shall not let his left hand know what his right has done. Such a duty should excite our best judgment, and we should endeavor to so govern our action that injustice shall not result from the performance of this duty. Masonry having unbounded faith in her sons, has made this an act of conscience and not of consultation.

He is quite outspoken when treating of errors both at home and abroad, though possibly at fault in being a little too strong in expressing his rebukes. He is evidently a man of very decided opinions, and presents them unrelieved by any gloss of rhetorical palliatives. But while severe in censuring error, he evidently strives to do justice. Witness his recommendation in the following extract, involving the admission and retraction of error, and fully sustained by the Grand Lodge in adopting the rescinding resolution reported by a special committee, viz:

NEW JERSEY.

Allow me to draw your attention to an order of this Grand Lodge to its Subordinate Lodges directing them to hold no intercourse with a Lodge in New Jersey styled Alpha Lodge, No. 116. This order will be found on page 510, Proceedings of June, 1872. I bring this matter before you and ask that the order be recinded. It has placed this Grand Lodge in a false position before the Masonic world. It degrades us to a level with this Lodge. If we have reason to believe that the Grand Lodge of New Jersey has, by granting a warrant to No. 116 violated any of the landmarks, our true course, our dignified course would be to open a corres-

pondence with our sister of New Jersey, and endeavor to convince her of her error, if she be in fault; and if we are convinced that she has acted within the pale of law, to squarely acknowledge it. Such is the proper method and such should have been the course proposed at the time that unfortunate order was promulgated. It is doubtless too late at this date to discuss the subject, but it is not too late to do justice to ourselves and promptly rescind the order against Alpha Lodge, and assume again our dignity and supreme positions.

The Grand Lodge of Cuba recognized by the adoption of the following resolution, recommended by a Committee composed of Grand and Past Grand Officers, viz:

We, therefore, respectfully recommend the adoption of the following, to-wit:

Resolved, By the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Delaware, that we hereby recognize the *Gran Logia de la Isla de Cuba* as the duly and lawfully constituted Grand Lodge of the Island of Cuba, to whom we do now extend the right hand of fellowship, and offer this expression of our fraternal regards.

GEO. TROUP MAXWELL,
Deputy Grand Master.
DANIEL McCLINTOCK, P. G. M.
JAMES PONDER, P. D G. M.

Brother Ramon Illa, as the Representative, and on behalf of the *Gran Logia de la Isla de Cuba*, returned his thanks for the action taken by this Grand Lodge, it being the first to extend to them the fraternal hand of fellowship, and welcoming them into the family of Grand Lodges.

We find no Report on Correspondence in these procedings.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Thomas N. Williams..... Grand Master.
R. W. William S. Hayes..... .. ..Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges.....	28

Work.

Number Initiated.....	52
" Passed.....	52
" Raised.....	52
" Affiliated.....	9
" Dimitted.....	8
" Died.....	15
" Suspended.....	21
" Enrolled Master Masons.....	1,219

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The proceedings before us record the doings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia at ten communications of that Grand Body, *seven* of which were "*special*," one SEMI-ANNUAL, one STATED, and one, the seventh in this series, the regular ANNUAL communication, held at Washington City, November 8th, 1876. Present M. W. G. M. J. L. Johnson, who presided at this and also at most of the communications alluded to above.

We regret to find that two of the special communications were called for burial purposes, the Grand Lodge having been called to participate in the funeral obsequies of two of its illustrious Past Grand officers, viz:

P. G. M. Roger C. Weightman, buried with ample masonic honors February 6th, 1876, and P. G. M. James Edwards Frisby Holmead, who was interred with like ceremonial October 22d, 1876. These were men of marked characteristics and their virtues are feelingly portrayed by M. W. Grand Master Johnson in his annual address. We sympathize with the Brethren of the District in their bereavements and sincerely hope that they, and all of us, may find among the "rough ashlers" now claiming the handywork of the Craft the material that shall replace the perfect "ashlers" so frequently of late tranferred from our temporal edifices, by command of the Great Artificer, to the Temple "not made with hands eternal in the Heavens."

The Grand Master's annual address is short, but says pleasantly and in good taste all that seemed to be necessary or proper on the occasion of the annual meeting.

He granted a dispensation, with some hesitancy, to Brethren of that nationality, establishing a German Lodge "to confer the degrees in the German Language," and to be styled ARMINIUS LODGE No. 25. The experiment seems to have resulted most satisfactorily, for on a favorable report from Brother Joseph S. McCoy, Grand Lecturer, who says of it:

"Since the last annual communication of the Grand Lodge a new gem has been added to the diadem of our fraternity, and it affords me pleasure to report that the officers of Arminius Lodge (U. D.) have proved themselves competent to discharge the duties which have devolved upon them. The work of that Lodge is in accordance with the Ritual of this jurisdiction."

A charter was granted by the Grand Lodge.

He thus speaks of the result of his visitation of Lodges:

"In obedience to the requirements of our Grand Lodge Constitution the Grand Officers made the usual annual visitation to each Lodge of the jurisdiction, and after a careful inspection of the work and thorough

investigation of the records and financial condition of the several Lodges, it gives me pleasure to report that all the Lodges are working harmoniously and in strict conformity with the requirements of our Grand Lodge. While the result of these visitations, however, shows the work of the jurisdiction has not been as great for the past year as the year previous, yet the Lodges are enjoying in a great degree harmony and prosperity. At each of these visitations, and in compliance with the custom observed for several years past, I endeavored to have some competent brother either to lecture or give appropriate readings. I found no difficulty in procuring the consent of brethren to undertake this task, but when the time arrived I was, in a few instances, disappointed by reason of unforseen circumstances."

We find no other matters of general interest discussed or acted upon at the annual meeting, save only the election of officers,

M. W. Brother E. G. Davis having been duly elected Grand Master and R. W. Brother W. R. Singleton re-elected Grand Secretary. The new Grand Master was installed at a special (called Installation) communication, held December 27th, 1876, who delivered a short but very appropriate address, from which we extract a few sentences indicative of the condition and sentiments of the Grand Lodge :

"I congratulate you upon the harmony and good feeling at present existing in this Grand Lodge, owing, doubtless, in a great measure to the able and efficient manner in which the affairs of this office have been conducted by my distinguished predecessors. And while I can not hope to equal them in masonic skill and learning, I will endeavor by diligent application, by the use of all the light vouchsafed me, by love and zeal for the Order, to so discharge the various and important duties of the office that you, my brethren, will not be made to feel that your confidence has been misplaced, or have cause to regret the choice you have made ; and if one year from to-night, when I return to you this emblem of authority with which you have invested me, we can congratulate ourselves upon the existence of the same harmony, good feeling and good government that now prevails in this jurisdiction, the measure of my ambition will be full.

" While I have no recommendations to make at this time, no new policy to announce, I hope it will not be considered out of place to call the attention of the officers of Lodges and others having influence to what I fear is a growing evil. I refer to electioneering for office in the Lodges. I hope the practice is not general, but that it has occurred in some of the Lodges can not be denied ; and as it is so clearly unmasonic, so diametrically opposed to all the teachings of Freemasonry, so fatal to discipline and good government, such a fruitful source of discord, I feel it to be my duty to call attention to the fact, that the officers and members of the several Lodges may endeavor, by their influence, to drive this apple of discord from their midst ; to frown upon it, discountenance it always and every where. In Masonry, at least, let the office seek the man.

"I would also ask you, brethren, to be very careful in the selection of your material. See that no unworthy candidate enters your portals.

Impress upon your committees the importance of careful and thorough investigation into the character of every applicant for the degrees. Search, investigate, and be entirely satisfied that the applicant is worthy the distinction he seeks; and, finally, my brethren, strive always to promote harmony in your Lodges, for without harmony you can not prosper."

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

This report is from the pen of Brother W. R. Singleton, and is, like its predecessors, not only very readable, but very useful and instructive withal. We regret that Brother S. is compelled to forego discussions, both for want of space and "material," as he is certainly an able and pleasant debator. He says in reference to this change of purpose, if we may so designate it :

"We shall therefore not attempt to reply to *all* the many comments which have been made upon our former reports, because to do so would occupy the space we have designed for those extracts from other proceedings. Hence we beg those who have thus favored us not to consider our silence as discourteous to them by any means, nor that we have not a word or two in reply ; but we are reminded by our limited space that we must confine ourselves to the *necessaries* of life, and refrain at present from all *luxuries*. We believe no further apologies are necessary in this connection, as our views upon most masonic subjects are pretty well known to the brethren of this jurisdiction, for whom we write particularly, and our contemporaries of other jurisdictions begin to understand that we are eminently the defender of the old ways and the "rights" of constituent Lodges, as opposed to the tendencies of the present moment towards centralization of power. It is the opinion as expressed clearly in this jurisdiction, and we propose to "fight it out on this line," not only all the summer, but for all time.

He reviews with care and in his usual pleasant, judicious, and often pungent style, the proceedings of Fifty Grand Lodges, among which those of Alabama for 1875 receive due and friendly consideration.

He speaks approvingly of Grand Master Wilson's address (1875), and reproduces many of his decisions without comment, and this we take it means approval, for Bro. S. is not given to reticence where Masonic *law* is misstated or misimplied. He quotes freely from *our* report on Correspondence for 1875, and his evident approval of its sentiments gives us encouragement as well as pleasure.

One of the interesting features of Brother Singleton's report is his review of the proceedings of MAINE for 1876, which we have carefully read and would gladly, if space permitted, reproduce some of the views presented respectively by Brother Drummond and himself on one subject at least; that of the Jurisdiction of Lodges over their members wherever

found and "*all Masons*" within their territorial jurisdictions. They differ we think very essentially on the point as to the *direct* and full control of one Lodge over a Mason a member of another Lodge and guilty of an offense within its jurisdiction while sojourning therein. Brother Singleton, as we understand him, gives *absolute* control *only* to the Lodge of which the offender is a *member*, and requires the Lodge in whose jurisdiction the offense is committed to act (after possibly preferring charges,) only the subordinate part of a "trial committee" "to take the evidence" (under commission) "and transmit the same, with its judgment upon the testimony, to his Lodge." We cannot assent to these views as consistent with the usages of Masonry in the United States, nor do we think the mode of procedure suggested by Bro. S. practicable, except as applicable to Lodges within the same grand jurisdiction. What, for instance, could be done in the case of an offending Brother from Europe, or other foreign country who disgraced his profession, etc.?

Brother Drummond, we are sure, favors no such restriction of Lodge jurisdiction over offenses committed within its territorial limits.

STATISTICS.

Number	Chartered Lodges	21

Work.

Number	Initiated	133
"	Passed	133
"	Raised	122
"	Affiliated	35
"	Reinstated	33
"	Dimitted	39
"	Died	40
"	Suspended, N. P. D	105
"	Of Enrolled Master Masons	2,783

FLORIDA,

Absent from our list last year, now presents a double claim to attention, the reports of 1876 and 1877 reaching us together by some unexplained accident; however, we are glad to welcome both the tardy and the timely visitors from the land of flowers. We shall notice each of these publications in the order of their date, and regret that our limited space will force us to condense this review of the *two* into the space quite too limited to do justice to *one*.

The Grand Annual Communication for 1876, convened in the city of Jacksonville, on the 11th January, A. L., 5876. Present, M. W. Grand Master Albert J. Russell and the constituents of the Grand Lodge, including the Representatives of forty-three (43) Subordinate Lodges with Grand Representatives from other jurisdictions, including Alabama.

The Annual Address of Grand Master Russell is well written and orditable to him as a faithful custodian of the work.

He discusses the Ohio deliverance on negro Masonry earnestly, and urges some strong objections to the movement as productive of wide spread confusion in the Craft, as well as being unwarranted by the status of the colored Lodges. We do not see the aptness of his illustration in comparing the uprooting of slavery in America with the exodus of the Israelites from Egyptian bondage, which to our mind are too very dissimilar events. We give his remarks on this topic:

> Our brethren of Ohio should remember the difference in society as it relates to the colored man there, as well as all over the North and West, and here in Florida, as in all the Southern and formerly slave States.
>
> There is but one parallel in all the world's history to the uprooting of the very foundations of society and its established conventionalities in the South in the emancipation of the slaves, and that is the liberating from and carrying out the ancient Israelites from Egyptian bondage; and now, for a moment, let us consider these two great parallels, and see if we cannot draw some wholesome lessons for our own safe guidance in the great question before us—the one is largely the result of man's caprice and fanaticism; true, we cannot believe that so great a moral result could have come to pass without permission and endorsement, so to speak, from Almighty God, yet, I say it was very largely the result of man's caprice, and has so far been conducted by him—the other was directly the work of the Almighty; it was He who sent Moses directly to the King with the demand that His people should be freed, and permitted to go and establish themselves as a nation amid the nations of the world. It was He who, when the King refused, organized their march, and built up their pillar of cloud by day and pillar of fire by night. It was He who conducted them between the steadfast walls of an obedient sea, and in turn made these walls melt, as it were, again into their native element and destroy their proud masters; and yet, in the midst of all this display of Omnipotent power in their behalf, did He think that generation fit to go up and occupy the promised land, and build themselves into a nation? No! for if he had he would not have taken them through the long circuitous, unknown route through a dry and barren wilderness, requiring a term of forty years, during which almost every Ismelite who had left Egypt was buried beneath the dry sands, and a new generation had grown up, educated under God's own government and training, and these only entered the promised inheritance. Now are the masses of the colored men of the late slave States fitted and prepared to take, at once, position side by side with the former citizen or Mason? I am fully of opinion that if our good brother, as many of the brethren of his own jurisdiction

have done, would sojourn a while with us, he would certainly be of the opinion that the fullness of time had not yet come; and that while this measure might possibly work good with him, it would work destruction to others of the Great Fraternity of Masons.

The remainder of his address is confined to matters of local business, and we note among other reports of the year's work the granting of dispensations for seven new Lodges. The proceedings of this Grand Communication, occupying three full days of diligent labor, are well deserving of commendation as respects the style and ability of the reports of its Grand Officers and Committees, as well as the judicious action of the Grand Lodge on the subjects presented for consideration.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Is reported upon by P. G. M. D. C. Dawkins, for the Committee, in a manner as decidedly interesting as it is creditable to the author. Indeed quite a new departure for Florida, judged from the standard of 1875, the report which we reviewed in 1875, with expressions of disappointment at its brevity. We hope to greet annually such fair, able and interesting deliverances from this correspondent.

He reviews the proceedings of Alabama for 1874 with pleasant fraternal commendation, for which we thank and which we, in part, reproduce for the satisfaction of the brethren named or alluded to in those extracts:

ALABAMA, DECEMBER 7, 1874.—This is a very neat volume of 214 pages. Fifty-fourth Annual Communication. Grand Master Isaiah A. Wilson presented the annual address, who represents the prevalence of peace and harmony at home, and undisturbed friendship abroad. Quite a number of decisions were rendered, and approved, many of which are in harmony with our jurisprudence, and some otherwise. Some general rules are laid down, apparently admitting no exceptions, while we think that meritorious exceptions may attend them all. "Keep the elements of mischief shut out of doors," is an elegant and significant sentiment from the committee on appeals and should be looked to as they recommend, in the admission of candidates and the investigation of alleged irregularities of conduct. Ninety-eight appeal cases have been before the Grand Lodge within the last eight years, only seven of which were brought up this time, which served as a proper subject matter of fraternal congratulation by the committee.

The reports of the committees and of those excellent financial officers show a healthy condition of finances, which should be, and evidently is, very gratifying to the whole craft.

Brother William T. Walthall, of Mobile, presented the Foreign Correspondence report, and although it is his first, and attended with a modest apology, we have no anticipation of reading a better one. It reviews all the American Grand Lodges but three, presents tidings from a greater distance, and separately handles in a masterly manner many subjects of

general interest, which we would gladly copy for the benefit of all reading Masons here if the plan of this report would permit.

Brother Dawkins discusses considerately the new (Ohio) departure on colored Masonry, and we recognize in him an able defender of legitimacy, as the important factor in this grave problem so inconsiderately, as we think, forced upon our attention by our Ohio Brethren. The report of 1876 contains a very eloquent and instructive oration from W. Rev'd O. A. Fulwood, Grand Orator on the theme:

"*Fraternity, Considered as a Moral Power in the World.*"

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Brother Enos Wasgate.....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother DeWitt C. Dawkins.....Grand Secretary (re-elected).

FLORIDA (1877).

The Grand Annual Communication for 1877 was held on Tuesday, the 9th day of January of that year, in the city of Jacksonville, and was opened in ample form by M. W. Grand Master Enos Wasgate, with "a due representation of lodges" (51 in all) and other needed constituents of a Grand Lodge.

Grand Master Wasgate delivered a very appropriate and well considered address, in which he makes many practical, as it appears to us, useful suggestions in reference to the internal affairs of the jurisdiction, and we are impressed, by the perusal of his report, with the idea that he is a man of superior administrative capacity and a devoted mason. We like this just allusion to an officer whose onerous duties are not properly appreciated by the fraternity at large. There are many Grand Secretaries similarly devoted to work and rendering ample service, both in quality and quantity, for very meagre compensation, viz:

"My associations with the officers and members of the Grand Lodge during the last four years, have been exceedingly pleasant and agreeable, and during the last year, I have received much valuable assistance from the R. W. Grand Secretary; and be assured, brethren, that his knowledge of masonic law and jurisprudence is an acquisition that masons in Florida may well be proud of. His zeal in the cause is untiring, and the compensation which he receives for his services as Grand Secretary and Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, is a small return for the labor which he performs, although it is all, perhaps, which you can afford to give. Often, in the still hours of night, while others are taking that repose which nature has made necessary for their health and comfort, he is attending to those duties which has given to this jurisdic-

tion the best code of masonic law on the American continent, and I feel that it would be a dereliction of duty to not call your attention to it, as no one knows his value better than myself.

Among his many useful suggestions is a well-timed hint at masonic duty in reference to the vice of intemperance, which we quote here:

"From our masonic standpoint as a system of morality, it is not only a duty, but a privilege, to contemplate our country and discover, if we can, the leading and most damaging vices of the day, and bring the force of our system into operation against them, especially as they may have entered our own circles. In discharging this duty and exercising this privilege, we can not fail to discover, with shame and sorrow, that the excessive and intemperate use of intoxicating drinks is among the foremost of these vices, and alas! as we shall discover it among the nation's vices, so shall we also discover that it has made its insidious entry into our own ranks. In view of this fact, I here raise my voice and call upon you who have been chosen to rule and govern, as well as the whole Craft, to hold aloft that grand cardinal virtue, Temperance, and insist upon its observance and constant practice, for it is not less essential to the perfect Ashlar of Masonic character than its coherent sisters, Prudence, Fortitude and Justice, and by the maintenance of these alone, can we develop a Craft celebrated for its sobriety, integrity and moral beauty, and for its acknowledged usefulness."

The proceedings throughout this communication, closing on the 11th of January, are characterized by harmony, intelligence and true masonic industry. We note no matters of special interest to this jurisdiction, unless it may be the useful and instructive deliverances of Brother Charles A. Fulwood in his second annual oration delivered before the Grand Lodge.

The subject chosen for this oration being "Free Masonry, considered in its relations to civil and religious liberty"—an admirable theme, most eloquently and satisfactorily delineated and enforced; but we can only refer to it as altogether worthy of praise and of general circulation—one sentiment we make room for, because it expresses most forcibly the truth as to the character and mission of Masonry:

"Free Masonry is not religion, nor is it a substitute for religion, but it is eminently a social and moral institution. It endorses all truth, encourages all virtue, contemns and holds in the utmost disfavor all vice. Its teachings have a direct tendency to make men more social and humane, to build them up in all the elements of a noble manhood, to qualify them for the various relations and stations of private and public life. An eminent Masonic author has given, in sententious form, the following as his conception of what Free Masonry is, and I am willing to appropriate it as my own: "*A body whose esse is Love; whose Existence is the Exercise of Universal Charity; whose Religion is without sect; whose Patriotism is without party; whose Creed is the Bible; whose aim is the Establishment of Peace on Earth and good will toward all Mankind; whose Embodiment is Liberty and whose only Enemy is DESPOTISM.*"

"Before such a sublime conception of Free Masonry, I confess, Brethren, that I am at once awed and thrilled. And I am the more profoundly affected by the contemplation of what Free Masonry is, when I consider her trials and her triumphs—her charities and her labors of love—her persecutions and her endurances. Maligned and anathematized, she blesses in return and silently works on for the good of her accusers. Misrepresented, she scarcely cares to explain; but points to the fruits of her teachings and influence, and says: 'By these I will be known and vindicated.' She has come down through all the ages mighty in Truth, invincible in Principle, radiant in Virtue, 'scattering seeds of kindness' and blessing the nations, and no art of the diplomat, no wile of the venal politician has been able to soil her garments, or divert her from her high mission on the earth. She stands forth with her beautiful investiture of moral royalty, and her jeweled crown shines with ever increasing luster."

We are disappointed and regretful at finding no

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

in this Volume, but hope for the renewal of pleasant reading in that particular in future reports.

A special Communication was held 25th February, 1877, to attend the funeral of and mark the respect of the Grand Lodge for the character of their late

P. G. M. SAMUEL BENEZET,

and they also at this communication adopted testimonials of respect to the memory of

W. BROTHER DAVID JONES,

late Grand Tiler—two brethren of eminent virtues and much loved by the fraternity.

OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Enos Wasgate (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. D. C. Dawkins " .....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

	1876	1877
Number of chartered Lodges	70	71

Work.	1876	1877
Initiated	135	119
Passed	121	116
Raised	130	115
Affiliated	107	130
Reinstated	24	26
Dimitted	128	80
Suspended	88	55

	1876	1877
Whole number of enrolled Master Masons	1,966	2,212

GEORGIA.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Georgia held its Ninetieth (90th) Grand Annual Communication in the city of Macon, commencing on Tuesday, October 31st, 1876, and closing the following Thursday. The Grand Lodge was "opened in AMPLE FORM on the THIRD DEGREE," by M. W. Grand Master David E. Butler. There appears to have been a large attendance at this communication, consisting of Grand and Past Grand Officers, Grand Representatives, Past Masters, and last, but *not least*, the Representatives of (248) two hundred and forty-eight Subordinate Lodges. The Grand Master's annual address is very brief. His opening sentences, which we quote annexed, show that he meant business, viz:

"Brethren—We should be ready, as I doubt not that we are, to congratulate each other, to find so many present at this Annual Communication.

Our cities on the seaboard, and our brethren in them, have suffered from the pestilence, and death's doings have made many hearts to be mournful. Many of the Subordinate Lodges made contributions to our afflicted brethren, in answer to a circular which I caused to be sent down, and by so much assisted the distressed and destitute, as was our duty and pleasure.

The other Lodges have enjoyed the privileges of the Craft in peace and in good health.

I have no subject of unusual interest to lay before you. Our business will be the regular order, to which let us address our best energies."

And he wasted no time in presenting his views on the topics claiming attention in his report.

He speaks favorably of the Southern Masonic Female College (located at Covington, Ga., as we find by reference to former reports), advising liberal appropriations for repairs, &c., and recommends that a livelier interest be taken in its "management and welfare" by the trustees. He advises a sinking fund to be created by regular annual appropriations to provide for, or rather anticipate, the maturity of their bonds. He does not apparently *relish* the duty of deciding questions, and closes his address with this brief and curt deliverance under the head of

DECISIONS.

"I have rendered a great many authoritative opinions during the past year. The most of them have been satisfactory. None, I believe, have involved any new question of Masonic law. Some had complications which I could not readily untangle, and I directed that they should be brought here for your consideration.

Such is the perversity of human nature, even among Masons, that an ingenious wrong-doer, sometimes in office, would puzzle the wisdom of

our ancient Grand Master Solomon, could he be here, to read the ponderous and conflicting inquiries which are often made. As I have not learned all which can be known, and some of the questions asked were too hard for me, I have promptly said, in reply, "I do not know."

D. E. BUTLER, *Grand Master.*

We were "traveling back to Georgia" with "great expectations," when we met the "cold shoulder" *in* this (very appropriate perhaps, but nevertheless) very unsatisfying brief of Masonic routine. It is certainly an address "*sui generis*," but perhaps would have been less repulsive to our GEORGIA yearnings (we came from there in youth, and everything Georgian is to us personally great and joyous, except possibly *this* address,) if we had not been pampered by reading after Brother (now P. G. M.) Irvin—alack aday! too, another disappointment meets us in the *remodeled* report on Foreign Correspondence, and with due respect and deference to the Grand Master's instructions, under which the minutes say Brother Samuel Lawrence's report was remodeled, we must express our regret at the absence from *this* department of the able, polished and fascinating pen of Brother Blackshear. We verily believe that we shall have to seek some other Mecca, some other inspiration of Masonic lore and literature, than Georgia—though we very much dislike to turn away from our mother State for lessons of wisdom and gems of beauty. Where are all the shining lights of Georgia's once gloriously bespangled Masonic horizon? are they dimmed by age or mutely biding the advent of regeneration? But perhaps the fault is in us and our stupidity has caused this dim perception of the beauties of Georgia's recent Masonic utterances. If it is indeed true that our's is the fault, then be our's, too, the shame of these false impulses of complaint and censure. We mean no harm and after writing so daringly feel almost crushed with fear at our temerity. The proceedings under consideration certainly, from beginning to end, show a model record of quick and regular dispatch of business with no lack of harmony or intelligence in "the work of the Lodge."

OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. David E. Butler, (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. J. Emmett Blackshear, (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

	1876.	1875.	1874.	1873.
Number of Chartered Lodges...	307	300	281	280
No. of Lodges making returns...	247	281	270	270
Membership returned.....	14,475	15,158	14,957	15,402
Initiated.....	529	767	865	898
Passed.....	528	708	872	846
Raised.....	533	701	849	821
Admitted.....	326	432	384	427
Dimitted.....	533	630	617	636
Suspended.....	827	517	486	150
Excluded.....	87	42	135	49
Died.....	190	192	233	223
Rejected.....	150	200	290	316
Reinstated.....	114	132	138	121

IDAHO

Absent from our last report, when the proceedings of their *Eighth* Annual Communication were due, is again a welcome visitant in the report of 1876, being the proceedings of the *Ninth* Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the Territory of Idaho, convened at Boise City, Tuesday, September 12th, A. L., 5876.

Present, the Grand Master M. W. J. W. Griffith, with a quorum of Grand Officers and Representatives, and the Grand Lodge opened in AMPLE FORM.

We have watched with some interest the doings of this young sister of the far West, and confess to a quiet satisfaction in realizing that the work of Masonry is being well done in that recently organized Grand Jurisdiction. We do not know how we can better familiarize our readers, as we desire to do, with the characteristics of this Grand Lodge than by a few quotations from the report before us, which we proceed to do. The Grand Master's address is very brief, but well written. We quote his opening sentences, viz:

Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Idaho:—

In accordance with the provisions of our Constitution, we are once again convened to review the proceedings of the past year, and to consider what the good of the order requires at our hands for the ensuing year within our jurisdiction. We meet in peace and harmony, and, so far as I am informed, peace and harmony have prevailed throughout our jurisdiction during the past year.

It is a matter of just pride to every true lover of our order: That,

although prehistoric in its origin, it has, without any departure from its primary principles, or deviation from its ancient landmarks, kept even pace with, and has ever been found in the vanguard of, an enlightened and progressive civilization. And nowhere is this more apparent than in the history of the first century of our beloved republic—recognized, fostered, and cherished by the fathers of the republic. Their descendants have followed in their pathway, and in no country does the ancient and honorable order of Freemasonry hold higher rank or find more general and honorable recognition than in America. *Let us* endeavor, in the preservation of the purity and integrity of the craft, to demonstrate our appreciation of the inheritance we have received.

The reports of Committees and of Grand Officers are all in good style and are very creditable productions, which the proceedings, as presented in the well arranged minutes of R. W. Grand Secretary Charles Himrod, compare very favorably with the doings of older and more experienced Bodies. One feature in their Financial reports we stop to admire and commend to other jurisdictions for imitation.

Idaho owes no debt, and has a good surplus in her general fund with a "Widows' and Orphans' fund of nearly $4,500 00. How many rich (and reverend) Grand Lodges can show a better record in this behalf?

The report on

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Is from the pen of Brother A. H. Purdy, Chairman, and he reviews with judgment and in excellent style the proceedings of forty-eight Grand Lodges, and among them the minutes of Alabama for 1875 receive due notice and fraternal consideration. Brother Purdy in this report has certainly made a successful "debut," and we welcome him as a worthy companion in the reportorial ranks. We quote his introductory remarks, which indicate as well his modesty as his intelligent appreciation of the work assigned him, viz:

Your committee herewith present the maiden report on Foreign Correspondence to this Grand Lodge; and were we to follow the beaten track of some of our brethren of the reportorial corps, would devote a chapter to excuses and inability. We shall put ourself in no such awkward position, knowing it to be one of the weaknesses incident to human nature to become offended when due acknowledgment is made to such confessions. We will try, however, to do the best we can, promising to be brief, as we must necessarily.

We conceive it to be the duty of this committee to review the proceedings of our sister Grand Lodges, make such suggestions and criticisms as, in its judgment, may be prudent and justifiable; after which submit them to the Grand Lodge from whom it derived its appointment, for its ratification, and if indorsed, lose their individuality and become the senti-

ments of that body. By these means the laws and customs governing the craft, to a great extent, are established.

It is a conceded fact, that in most instances the first talent in the order is engaged in this work. It must necessarily, therefore, be expected that some of us must feel a keen delicacy and have apprehensions for the result of our labors. We shall rely upon the charity of our brethren for excuses for the faults that may be committed in this our first attempt with the quill and scissors.

As we have already intimated, it is our design to be brief.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. E. A. Stephenson.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Charles Himrod, (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... 11

Work.

Number	Initiated	36
"	Passed	47
"	Raised	49
"	Affiliated	16
"	Dimitted	19
"	Died	6
"	Suspended	3
"	Of Enrolled Master Masons	389

ILLINOIS.

The thirty-seventh (37th) Grand Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Illinois assembled in the city of Chicago, on Tuesday, October 3d, 1876, and was opened "in due FORM" by R. W. Joseph Robbins, D. G. M. (acting M. W. Grand Master George E. Lounsbury absent from necessity, caused by severe illness). There appears to have been a large attendance at this annual communication and the proceedings, presented in the usual style and completeness of Brother G. Sec'ry Burrill's work, are exceedingly interesting and enjoyable.

The annual address of acting Grand Master Robbins is an appropriate and well written message, and we extract from it such portions as seem to us requisite to furnish our readers with information from that Grand jurisdiction, and introduce them to one who, by election of the Grand Lodge,

wields at this writing the Sceptre of Masonry in Illinois, and whom we believe to be admirably fitted for the exalted and responsible position of Grand Master. In this address we have an explanation of the regretted absence of G. M. Lounsbury, the announcement of his illness being associated with a pleasing illustration of *one*, at least, of the "tenets of our profession." Brother Robbins commences his address as follows, viz:

"Twelve months have been told off by the swift recurring days since we last met as a Grand Lodge, and as we stand on the dividing line between two Masonic years—ere we review the labors of the old and take counsel for the new—our grateful hearts instinctively turn towards Him whose loving kindness has been about us as a mantle, and on whose care we rest as in the hollow of a mighty hand.

But as we stand here rejoicing in our strength, we do not forget the beloved brother in his weakness, the Grand Master of our choice, who, in enforced exile, is seeking health beneath milder skies; but from every heart goes up a prayer for his restoration to his brethren, and to his wife and little ones who watch for his coming with love's wistful eyes.

Grand Master Lounsbury continued to perform the duties of his office long after his strength had ceased to be equal to the task, when, in the latter part of July, his health became so much impaired that he was compelled to relinquish them, and acting under the imperative orders of his physicians, to leave the jurisdiction and seek relief in the mountain air of Colorado.

Soon after my succession to the duties of the Grand Mastership, it came to my knowledge that, from the abrupt abandonment of his business under the pressure of a necessity that would admit of no delay, not only were his financial affairs in such condition as to make the consequent mental anxiety a serious present hindrance to his recovery, but in such condition as to forbid his absence for a period long enough to insure any permanent benefit. The details of the financial situation were such as to require more speedy action than an appeal to the Lodges alone could secure.

The emergency was so pressing that with the unanimous advice and consent of my colleagues of the Charity Committee, I determined to disregard the statutory limitation as to the amount to be appropriated in any given case during the recess of the Grand Lodge; and accordingly, on the 20th day of August, I drew on the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge for five hundred dollars. This has been paid out for the relief of Brother Lounsbury, on drafts which are herewith submitted as vouchers.

This action, which is submitted for your consideration, was supplemented by an appeal to the constituent Lodges for further aid, issued from the Grand East on the 30th day of August. The response to this appeal has been prompt and liberal, but the returns are not yet so complete as to indicate the final aggregate. I trust it may be sufficient to enable our Grand Master to prolong his stay where alone there seems to be any hope of his recovery, and where, at latest advices, his physicians gave him encouragement to hope a prolonged sojourn might secure it."

He then proceeds, in a very business like manner, to present, under appropriate heads, the topics claiming attention, either as of local im-

portance or as effecting this Grand Lodge in its relations to other Grand Bodies.

He opposes the recognition of the Grand Lodge of ONTARIO ("so called") and thus states his objections, and we call attention especially to his views on the objectionable "mutual benefit" feature of the Ontario Constitution:

"Application for recognition and an exchange of representatives has been received from a body styling itself the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Ontario, having its pretended seat of government at London, in that Province.

From an accompanying document, it appears that the following provision has been incorporated into the Constitution of this new body:

'In case of the sickness of any brother, disqualifying him from labor, three dollars per week is to be appropriated by the Lodge to which he belongs, for his sustenance; and in case of the death of any brother, fifty dollars is to be appropriated by the Grand Lodge for the benefit of his widow and orphans, if any.'

The Grand Lodge of Canada, with which we are in fraternal correspondence, and which is everywhere recognized as a sovereign body, already fully occupies the territory of the Province of Ontario; but were it not so, the Grand Lodge of Illinois could not enter into fraternal relations with an organization which, by the incorporation of the above-quoted provision into its organic law, had already taken itself out of the category of Masonic bodies.

The doctrine on which that provision is based is utterly subversive of the principles and groundwork of Masonry, and the provision itself at once converts the society built upon it into a mutual benefit society, with which masonry can have nothing in common until it shall have lost those grand characteristics which distinguish it as a charitable, instead of an insurance association.

That in recent years we have been drifting in a mercenary direction, and coming to make masonry more and more a matter of dollars and cents, can not be doubted, nor can any thoughtful brother view without alarm the increasing tendency in this direction.

Heretofore these tendencies have manifested themselves only in such ways as to make their repression by legislative action difficult; but now that they have culminated in this revolutionary innovation, attempted by a body otherwise so revolutionary as to compel action with reference to it, I trust that the Grand Lodge of Illinois, while recognizing in unmistakable terms the jurisdictional rights of the Grand Lodge of Canada, will in terms no less unmistakable emphasize its determination to hold no intercourse with any self-styled masonic body whose organic law is a denial of that fundamental principle of masonry which, more than any other, is characteristic and vital."

Under the head of legislation, he says:

"I have no legislation to recommend; but recommend rather that you abstain from legislation except in such matters of interpretation and procedure as the experience of the committees of the Grand Lodge itself, while in session, has shown to be required.

In this connection I may refer to the project which was under consideration at the last Annual Communication, of establishing a Widows' and Orphans' Home, to be owned, governed and controlled by the Grand Lodge.

I deem it my duty to say that the history of public masonic charities in this country, educational or otherwise, does not inspire me with confidence in the success of such an undertaking under Grand Lodge management, even using the word success in its narrowest, its material aspect. More than this, I do not share the feeling that the absence of such an institution is a reproach to the Craft in any jurisdiction. On the contrary I repeat what I have elsewhere said, that the true mission of masonry is a silent one, leavening all unseen with its softening and restraining influences, the community in which it exists. An improved state of society is a nobler monument to its influence and power than piles of marble; and to touch the springs of benevolence in the individual heart, of more importance than the foundation of costly public charities.

If, however, the Grand Lodge should differ with me on this subject, and deem it desirable to embark in this enterprise, I would still urge that the initial steps be taken with the utmost caution, and only after the most careful deliberation as to methods and plans."

Here we beg to take issue with Brother Robbins; we once thought as he now writes on this subject, but have learned, alas, too sadly, the lesson that charity, like "faith without works is dead." We must have some stimulant, some recognized and noble object in view; some call for *united*, persistent, yea, laborious effort, demonstrating the existence and vigor of our charity, as well as assisting its growth and development; or that saving grace of our theological ladder will, like the *unused* muscles of the human frame, wither, contract and die. What nobler object than an orphans', a widows' Home, can appeal to masonic sympathy or claim masonic union and effort? Whatever of difficulty or of failure may lie in the way of final success in such an enterprise, will disappear before the tread of the "Grand Army" of Illinois Masons marching on in union and strength to the call of duty. Individual effort has failed to meet the demand for succor to the helpless and distressed, the call is now for united labor and means to accomplish results suited to the emergency. We hope our Brethren of Illinois will take no step backward in this matter, but in maturely deliberating upon the report of their committee (action having been postponed until next annual communication) during the year determine to make a vigorous effort to conquer all difficulties and establish the Home. As a counterpoise to the Grand Master's views on this subject, we quote a portion of the report of the special committee on the Widows' and Orphans' Home project, and regret that we have not space for the excellent plan of organization proposed by them:

Be it resolved by the Grand Lodge of Illinois, A. F. and A. M., in Annual Communication assembled—1st. That we regard the establishment and

maintenance of a Home for worthy indigent Master Masons, and for the widows and orphans of Masons, as a high privilege and a sacred duty; and that we hereby pledge the hearty sympathy and the substantial aid of the Grand Lodge and its constituent Lodges to found and support an enterprise so commendable, so fully in accord with the spirit of Freemasonry and so essentially a tangible exemplification of Charity, the chief corner-stone of our Institution.

There are several interesting matters in these minutes that we had marked for comment, especially in the able reports of the committees on "Appeals and Grievances" and Masonic Jurisprudence, but we find it necessary to forego that pleasure.

MASONIC CORRESPONDENCE

is reported upon by Theo. T. Gurney, (successor to Bro. Joseph Robbins, recently called to the Grand East) who presents a very interesting review of the doings of forty-eight Grand Lodges, among which Alabama has her appropriate niche and receives considerate notice.

We give Brother Gurney's introduction as explaining alike the plan of his report and expressing very sound opinions on the "situation:"

In submitting this report. we wish to say, that we have been so much occupied with the pressing duties of varied Masonic relations, that we could not give the time to the work that we would have devoted to it under other circumstances. For the truth of this statement, we appeal to those of the Craft who are conversant with our fraternal associations. For this reason we have only quoted discussions and opinions that are now pressing themselves upon general attention.

GENERAL ASPECTS.

Looking over the field, we find much to encourage with but little that is condemnatory. Particularly have we noticed the commendable determination to place Masonry upon a higher plane of usefulness.

Grand Masters are out spoken and fearless; and it is with pleasure that we place upon record the conviction, that in the near future an applicant for Masonic honors will not only be obliged to express a belief in the existence of one "Great Creator," but will also be required to give "cardinal virtues" an emphatic endorsement, before crossing the portals of a lodge. The good work in this direction is having rapid development, and we fully believe that naught can hinder an early consummation of our best intentions, but an over-anxious desire to make Masons.

We will not attempt a concealment of our apprehensions on this point. Lodges are not alone responsible. Many Grand Masters, though zealous for good, are inclined to look to numerical strength as necessary to giving the craft a prominence that shall meet our expectations in securing for our Fraternity a prominent place with kindred organizations, in conserving the interests of our race.

We think they err; for we find in nearly every Grand Jurisdiction complaint of Lodges without strength or efficiency, and in many instances so defective in morals as to demand their extinction. We do not think it requires large discernment to see that the present indiscriminate authorization of new Lodges will lead to consequences which every good and true Craftsman will have ample cause to deplore.

He has no sympathy for non-affiliates, and presents some very appropriate remarks on that subject, closing thus:

We are forced to these conclusions from a long and varied experience in all the branches of Masonry. We make the assertion without fear of successful contradiction, that ninety per cent. of non-affiliates are not in sympathy with the Fraternity. Curiosity in some, avarice in others, and in the majority, a combination of both, prompted them to knock at the door of Lodges. A few weeks of intercourse with the brethren, satisfied the first, and in the second place assured them that Masonry was not an insurance association, for their benefit, but on the contrary, that any favors from the brethren would only accrue from a well ordered life and faithful devotion to their obligations. These dimit, or as is law in some jurisdictions allow themselves to be "stricken from the roll." It is true that a small percentage of non-affiliates dimit for reasons which they believe to be sufficient. For these we entertain the warmest sympathy, and for this reason we are of opinion—

First.—That a non-affiliate has no *claims* upon the Fraternity.

Second.—That Grand Lodges should allow constituent bodies to be the judges of what fraternal courtesies should be extended to non-affiliates, either in life or death.

Third.—That a dimit should be granted upon application in writing, stating reasons therefor. If the applicant declined to furnish such reasons, the dimit should state the fact.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Joseph Robbins.....Grand Master.

R. W. Bro. Jno. F. Burrill, (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges	694

Work.

Number Initiated	2,458
" Passed	2,428
" Raised	2,464
" Rejected	804
" Affiliated	910
" Reinstated	191

Number Dimitted	1,409
" Died	443
" Suspended	1,168
Total number of enrolled M. Masons	40,472

INDIANA.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Indiana convened in its Sixtieth Grand Annual Communication, in the city of Indianapolis, on Tuesday, May 22d, 1877, and was opened in Ample Form.

Present—M. W. Grand Master Frank S. Devol, with associate Grand Officers in stations, Past Grand and Deputy Grand Masters, with the Representatives of (465) four hundred and sixty-five Subordinate Lodges.

The annual address of Grand Master Devol is an able and very comprehensive review of the year's doings, and his official labors as we gather from this message were unusually arduous, and in some instances perplexing, if not mortifying.

Two Lodges which appear to have been derelict in duty were properly censured by the Grand Master and thereupon acted in contempt of his authority, one neglecting the reprimand, the other positively refusing obedience to his mandate. The offences were severally: Trying, by technical legal obstructions to the recovery of a debt, to defraud a Mason's widow out of borrowed money, used in erecting their HALL. This relates to Perry Lodge No. 37 (an old Lodge with a full roll of *wealthy* members), another "Western Star Lodge No. 26" was guilty of what seems to us the unpardonable sin. See the following extract from the SPECIAL DEPUTY'S report to the M. W. Grand Master, annexed:

I visited the above Lodge as your Special Deputy on the evening of April 24th, 1877, this being their regular stated meeting. I stated the nature of my visit, and read in open lodge the document you sent me, appointing me your Deputy in this case. After I requested the Lodge to place in my hands the amount yet due the Grand Lodge, $54.30, considerable bad feeling existed, and a great amount of discussion was indulged in. To bring the matter before the Lodge, it was moved and seconded that an order be drawn on the Treasurer for the amount, the brother making the motion making a lengthy speech in opposition to the motion. It was needless to say the motion was lost by an almost unanimous vote, only two voting in the affirmative. I then stated that as the Lodge had failed to comply with the orders of the Grand Master, it would devolve upon me to arrest the charter of the Lodge. I then requested the M. W., Bro. S. W. Steele, to direct the Secretary to furnish me an inventory of the property belonging to the Lodge. He at first declined to do so, but did finally direct the Secretary to furnish me with the said inventory. This the Secretary flatly refused to do. The Lodge sustaining the Secretary, considerable discussion followed. They then demanded by what

authority I was there to make such requests. I thereupon read my commission to them a second time, when several sneeringly remarked that anybody could write such a document as that, and doubted very much if it ever emanated from the Grand Master. I was compelled to appeal to the W. M. for protection against further insults.

For this offense the Special Committee to whom the subject was referred recommended suitable punishment, as follows:

WHEREAS, Western Star Lodge No. 26 has refused to pay to this Grand Lodge the special assessment levied against it for the years 1875 and 1876; and,

WHEREAS, Said Lodge refused to surrender its charter to the Special Deputy of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, duly appointed for that purpose, defying the authority of the Most Worshipful Grand Master to order such arrest, and the power of this Grand Lodge to levy and collect the special assessment; your committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That Western Star Lodge No. 26 be stricken from the roll of Lodges.

But unfortunately for the peace and dignity of this Grand Body and "for the good of Masonry," the Grand Lodge permitted itself to be lured from the path of duty (and as we think its Grand Master to be insulted) by the adoption of this miserable substitute, viz:

And thereupon Brother Ira Myers moved that the report of the committee be amended by adding a proviso that Western Star Lodge No. 26 be allowed sixty days' time in which to comply with the order of the Grand Lodge referred to in the report; and then, as an amendment to the proposed amendment, Brother Dandridge Tucker moved that the said Lodge be allowed ninety days' time, which was adopted.

The Grand Master reports many other cases of Lodge difficulties and irregularities, and we very much fear that the leniency or timidity above indicated in meting out just and adequate punishment to refractory Lodges will insure a harvest of like trouble to future Grand Masters. The committee to whom was referred the case of Perry Lodge No. 37 made a full and able report on the subject vindicating the honor of Masonry, by rebuking the subterfuge under which this Lodge tried to escape from its obligations, closing as follows:

Your committee, therefore, recommend that the functions of Perry Lodge No. 37, be suspended for a period of three months, and if, at the expiration of that time, the members of said Lodge shall not have fully satisfied or secured the said claim of Mrs. Page, that then the charter of said Lodge be, and the same is, hereby revoked, and the name of Perry Lodge No. 37, stricken from the Lodge rolls of this Grand Jurisdiction.

Bros. Ira Myers and Dandridge Tucker not, apparently, objecting. Perhaps they were absent, asleep, or had no special interest in protecting

Perry Lodge! We have detailed thus fully what appears to us a fearful departure from the "line and the plummet" mode of administering justice, because we fear the frequent repetition of such misapplied *mercies* will weaken our organization, if not *demoralize* our Lodges. The proceedings in the case of Western Star Lodge were quite UNMASONIC, and we note (as the lawyers say) an objection on that ground appealing to the "LANDMARKS."

The Grand Master passing from these and other vexing Lodge irregularities, proceeds to deliver a clear and very interesting *resume* of his official acts.

He has received an appeal from SYRIA for aid to establish schools, &c.

Has issued Dispensations for forming *fourteen* new Lodges.

Dedicated Lodge Halls, six in all, and laid the corner stones of two buildings to be used as schools.

Has in reference to "Lodge Irregularities" appointed Special Deputies, who, armed with an official search warrant containing (28) twenty-eight pointed questions, each referring to some rule of the Grand Lodge required to be observed by the Lodges, visited, investigated all the Lodges, and it is to be hoped urged and established uniform obedience to Grand Lodge edicts. The answers to these questions show great irregularities as having existed, but not greater, we suppose, than would be developed in any other jurisdiction if the same careful inquiries were made in ireference to abuses, &c.

We quote the Grand Master's earnest advocacy of the project to establish a

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' HOME AND INFIRMARY.

For several years the question of erecting and maintaining a Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home and Infirmary has been agitated in this Grand Body, but action invariably postponed for various causes. While preparing my instructions to Special Deputies appointed to investigate Lodge irregularities, etc., it occurred to me to propound Question 28, in order to feel the pulse of the Craft in relation to this subject, and thereby kill an additional bird with the same stone. The face of the returns, without full explanation, shows an evident opposition to the enterprise at present, as only 91 Lodges answer the question in the affirmative, while 338 respond in the negative. Of those recorded in the negative, however, but few, comparatively, are actually opposed to the proposition. To the contrary, a large majority of them are really in favor of it, but answer "No" to the question for the following reasons, principally:

1st. "Times are too hard just now, and can not subscribe at present, but will after awhile."

2d. "We are somewhat in debt now, and do not, therefore, feel able to do anything toward this laudable undertaking at present."

3d. And last, but not least, "We are decidedly in favor of the enterprise, and would willingly contribute, but we anticipate a tax upon us to relieve the Grand Lodge of her present indebtedness, which we are not prepared to meet at present, in addition to the subscription called for in Question 28."

Now, Brethren, I can not, even if I so desired, disguise the fact that I am decidedly in favor of the Masons of Indiana erecting and maintaining a Widows' and Orphans' Home and Infirmary. Neither do I feel less interested in some feasible proposition that may lead to a prompt and satisfactory liquidation of the present Grand Lodge debt. These are propositions in which we are all equally interested; and the question for us to determine now is, shall we abandon one for the sake of the other? or shall we put our shoulders to the wheel, with an indefatigable determination to accomplish both. Having intimated that the egg could be set up on end, it is perfectly natural for you to expect at least a suggestion as to the manner of accomplishing the feat. To my mind the manner is perfectly plain, and the means can be obtained simply by asking for it. Let us organize "The Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home Association," adopt suitable constitution and by-laws, elect the proper officers required to conduct the same successfully, and after having been duly incorporated under the law, proceed to solicit subscriptions, and judging from my faith in the liberality of thirty thousand Hoosier Masons, I can confidently predict that this great and glorious undertaking will not fail for want of means."

He says of an evil of increasing prevalence in this jurisdiction, what we have long suspected was the case, and we quote the statement for the benefit of suffering Lodges, for we know several which have been kept poor by itinerant beggars:

TRANSIENT APPLICANTS FOR RELIEF.

It appears, from information received direct from the subordinate Lodges, that 75 per cent. of the transient applicants for relief, claiming to be Masons, have subsequently proven to be imposters. Beyond mentioning this fact, I presume that further argument is unnecessary to convince you that aside from all other motives, self-protection demands the enactment of a law regulating this subject,

He also inveighs against appeals by *circulars* from Lodges in one jurisdiction to those in another for aid in building, etc., and says of the practice:

I can not use too strong terms in denouncing such acts on the part of subordinate Lodges. This too common system of sending mendicant appeals over the country is degrading to our fraternity and derogatory to our individual character. Let it no more be done from within our own jurisdiction.

With two other quotations we close our references to this very suggestive and able address, viz:

I am anxious to promote a greater interest in Masonic literature. Judi-

cious reading is the flint; and constant friction will develop sparks, without which the fires of thought pale and burn out. We live in a wonderful age of the world's history; and I see no reason for doubting that future historians will point to our present century as having had the special quality of great mental activity. The vivifying elements of this intellectual zeal are much more vividly diffused than was ever before known in any era of the world's record. I regard reading as the bread and butter, for the want of which the mind languishes.

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The Masonic fraternity in the State of Indiana, I am happy to say, is in a prosperous condition, considering the general depression of all business pursuits, and, blessed by union of good purpose, its halls are becoming populous with brethren who, from quiet places, have come up knocking at our doors, and once within the hospital of mercy neither misfortune nor persecutions, nor death, can break from the grasp of the fugitive the indestructible pillars of Faith, Hope and Charity. Go on, Brethren, in your noble work; let brotherly love prompt the contest; let the gentle influence of relief supply the weapons; let truth consecrate the effort and lead to victory.

This Grand Lodge, like all who have gone that way before them, and built fine houses on borrowed money, are suffering the pangs, torments, we might say, of doubt and mortification. Their fine Temple, so recently built and occupied, and doubtless admirably adapted to the uses for which it was designed, and not unreasonably expensive—costing only $120,000—and eligibly located at the capital, commercial and civil, of a large and prosperous State, surrounded by 30,000 Masons, owning and working over 500 Lodges, must now be paid for, while the creditor is importunate in his demands the "ways and means" for liquidating the debt are not apparent. We observe with regret that the reasonable suggestion of Lodge assessments, made by the committee in charge of that subject, was voted down and no substitute plan suggested, except that of authorizing the trustees to *borrow*. From our reading of the minutes, the majority of the Body were more disposed to grumble, and thus increase the trouble, than manfully assist in removing the difficulty. One member, "whose *hind*-sights are better than his *fore*-sights," as the old saying goes, nobly interposed to lift the wheel out of the mire and offered a resolution censuring the Trustees for building the Temple. This brother is too far advanced for Indiana—he requires room for expansion—so brother Hazelrigg advised him to go West—and to aid in immortalizing his name and deeds, we reproduce his resolution, viz:

Brother John T. Freeland offering the following resolution—

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Grand Lodge that those having charge of the construction of the Grand Masonic Temple, have extravagantly exceeded their rightful powers, and thereby loaded us with a large unnecessary debt.

Which was laid on the table.

But we are tarrying quite too long among the Hoosiers and must hasten away.

Bro. E. L. McLallen, Chairman of Committee, makes a very interesting report on

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE,

in which he reviews the proceedings of 50 American Grand Lodges, including those of Alabama for 1876, giving them pleasant and courteous notice. He thus alludes to Grand Master Pillans' address:

Grand Master's address of seven pages is an excellent paper. He granted dispensations for the formation of seven new Lodges, which is encouraging. Speaks clearly in disfavor of emergency Masons. Sixteen decisions are given, of which we note as of interest:

"No. 1. A dimit conditioned upon payment of dues, is no dimit."

"No. 9. A Lodge may, if it wishes, perform the last sad rites for an unaffiliated Mason. No law forbids it."

No. 11. A Lodge may exercise its charity at its own discretion."

Brother McLallen is a little facetious on one feature of the Alabama report, and hailing as he does from a temperance jurisdiction is a little *intemperate* in the *use* of *Beer*. See how his ideas run on fluids when speaking of even such a solid specimen of sobriety as our worthy self, a man who never *smiles* even at a *joke*.

Here is what Brother Mack says on the liquor question, and if Oliver don't get even with him then is Roland conqueror:

The Grand Lodge of Indiana (*vide* legislation of last year) allows its members to indulge in no *beers* or like fluids, on the presumption, it is to be concluded, that having got us all right she is going to keep us so; but, if we ever visit Alabama, our cable-tow will not draw so hard, so Brother B., prepare to return an Oliver for our Roland.

Pray come—our well remembered Brother Hazelrigg has been with us, and would like to welcome him again. Bring that dear old Brother with you; tell him Brown says come, and nobody but a Jones dares disobey Brown. *Our* Brown, you know, is PELEG.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Andrew J. Hay.....Grand Master.
R. W. Jno. M. Bramwell, (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... 519
(U. D. 18)

Work.

Number	Initiated	1,073
"	Passed	1,110
"	Raised	1,162
"	Affiliated	534
"	Reinstated	112
"	Dimitted	1,061
"	Died	335
"	Suspended	554
"	Of Enrolled Master Masons	28,101

INDIAN TERRITORY.

The Second Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory, convened in the town of Caddo, C. N., on Tuesday, 5th of September, 1876, and was opened in Ample Form by M. W. Grand Master Granville McPherson.

There was also a "called meeting" of this Grand Lodge preceding the Annual Communication held May 3d, 1876, "for the purpose of laying the corner stone of a church edifice at this place," Vinita, at which R. W. J. S. Murrow presided and opened the Grand Lodge in due form.

The proceedings of these two communications reached us in a neatly printed pamphlet, having the imprint "Southern Baptist Publication Society," Memphis. We were very full in our gleanings from the minutes of this Grand Lodge last year, with the intent of preserving an historical record of the doings of the first attempted organization of an Indian Grand Lodge in this country. We have less room to spare this year, and will have to confine our notice of the present volume to brief extracts from Grand Master McPherson's address, which is a very full and well expressed statement of their condition, &c. He commences thus:

Brethren of the Grand Lodge:

Another masonic year has passed away, another link in the mystical chain of Time has been dropped and now belongs to the numberless ages that are gone. Within the short twelve-month that has just expired since last we met, the hand of Death has been busy around us, yet it is gratifying to be able to announce that its icy finger has not been laid upon a member of this Grand Lodge. While the proceedings of most of our Sister Grand Lodges are marred by the dark page that commemorates the virtues of some departed brother, our's as yet remain unclouded. But my brethren, it is unnecessary for me to remind you that it will not always be thus. More than likely some of us before we meet together again will be called from labor here to refreshment over yonder; and let

us, I beseech you, brethren, so demean ourselves here that the kind brother on whom it may devolve to write our epitaph, can truthfully say: "He lived and died a true mason." These little words are easily spoken, but I fear how often misapplied. Let us examine ourselves carefully and see if we are justly entitled to that inscription upon our tomb, "A true mason." Have you ever thought, my brethren, of what constitutes a true mason? Alas! I fear too many of us consider our masonic obligations discharged if we but attend the lodge regularly, pay our dues and abide by the By-Laws. But these are the least important of all our duties, and if we stop here the ceremonies through which we passed amount to no more than a meaningless farce.

Brethren, have you ever, in any way, knowingly wronged or injured a brother mason? Have you to his face spoken a word to wound his feelings, or behind his back made a remark that could put a stain upon his good name? Have you failed to come to his assistance and support him in his falling fortunes, or to whisper good counsel in his ear and warn him of impending danger? Have you turned away from him in his hour of distress, or forgotten the duties you owe to his widow and orphans? Have you ever cheated him out of the value of a cent, or wilfully permitted it to be done by others? In short, have you ever acted, in any way whatever, toward a brother mason, or before the world, other than as an honest, upright man? If so, then you are not a "true mason," but a hypocrite, sailing under false colors. A man is a mason or he is not, and he who has passed through our ceremonies and then prostitutes the dignity of his station by the gross neglect of the plain and imperative duties devolving upon him, is as much of an imposter as he who gains admission among us without going through the formalities of initiation in a regular lodge. And my brethren, let me warn you against the danger of allowing these too frequent violations of our masonic obligations to go unpunished. Reproach and disgrace must be the ultimate result.

He is strongly opposed to the negro new departure, and believes the so-called colored Lodges are all clandestine.

Has issued dispensations for two new Lodges:

During the year I have visited the lodges at Vinita, Eufaula, and Atoka, and am pleased to say that I found them getting along harmoniously. The others, so far as I have been able to ascertain, are, with perhaps one exception, all in a satisfactory condition.

There are two lodges working within our jurisdiction, and have been ever since the formation of our Grand Lodge, that persistently refuse to come in and acknowledge our supremacy. One at Ft. Gibson and the other in Flint district; both in the Cherokee Nation. At our last meeting it was represented that the lodge at Gibson would likely come in very soon, and it was hoped the one in Flint district would do so too; so deeming it best under the circumstances to use no coercive measures, no action was taken further than to appoint a committee to confer with these wayward lodges, and induce them if possible by mild means to give in their allegiance. This committee has made no report to the Grand Master, nor have the lodges been heard from, only indirectly. I learn that the Gibson Lodge paid dues this year to Kansas; the other I have heard nothing of in any way. The time has now come when further for-

bearance on our part not only ceases to be a virtue, but would be an insult to the dignity of our Grand Lodge, and an injury to masonry generally, because of an abandonment of the doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction. And now, in view of the leniency we have extended to these lodges; patiently waiting for two years for them to do what, as good masons, they should have done long ago; repeatedly inviting them in a fraternal spirit to send in their charters and cordially co-operate with us in building up the Grand Lodge and advancing the interests of masonry in the Territory; and they having treated our kindly solicitations with indifference, not to say disrespect, I earnestly recommend the passage of a resolution before your adjournment, declaring them clandestine, with instructions to the Grand Secretary to immediately notify all our Sister Grand Lodges of the action taken.

And they were declared clandestine.

Nearly all the Grand Lodges that have met since the distribution of the proceedings of our last annual meeting, have extended to us a warm and fraternal welcome into the Grand Masonic family. We have already been recognized by eighteen or twenty in the foremost Grand Lodges of the United States and by some of the British possessions, and I, with pleasure make the announcement that the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory is now firmly established, and it but remains for us and our posterity to conduct it to a glorious future.

The Grand Master is opposed to undignified expressions, and thus states his objections to the use of slang:

In looking over the proceedings of some of our Sister Grand Lodges, I have been perfectly astonished, and not only that, but heartily ashamed, to see so many eminent, and in every other respect, worthy Grand Secretaries dealing to such an extent in the use of "slang phrases." This I consider a habit to be very much deplored, as anything of this kind, however pardonable it might be under other circumstances, is entirely out of place in the proceedings of a Grand Lodge I mention this not as a hint to our eminent and efficient Grand Secretary, for I know he is as much opposed to it as I am, but merely to put myself on the record against it.

He earnestly deprecated and declined, on the score of feeble health a re-election, but he was, nevertheless, renewedly called to the Grand East, and Brother Rufus P. Jones was re-elected R. W. Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... (with two U. D.)	6

Work.

Number Initiated.....	24
" Passed.....	32
" Raised.....	31

Number	Dimitted	8
"	Affiliated	13
"	Died	1
"	Enrolled Master Masons	196

IOWA.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Iowa held its (34th) thirty-fourth Annual Communication in the city of Davenport, Iowa, commencing June 5th, and closing Thursday, June 7th, A. D. 1877.

Present, M. W. Grand Master Henry William Rothert assisted by his associate Grand officers and the Representatives of two hundred and twenty-six (226) chartered Lodges. The Lodge "was opened on the third degree with proper ceremonies."

We note here, that prior to the opening of the Grand Lodge, there was quite an interesting reception ceremonial, that Grand Body having been escorted by the TEMPLARS to their Hall, where an address of welcome was made by Brother H. H. Benson in behalf of the Lodges and Brethren of Davenport, (we quote the address,) which was pleasantly and appropriately responded to by the M. W. Grand Master in behalf of the Grand Lodge.

ADDRESS:

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of Iowa—The Masonic Fraternity of this city extends to you its warm, earnest, hearty and fraternal greetings. We welcome you, one and all, with hospitable hands to our city and midst. We confess that it is with a sense of pride that we receive into our city so genial, intelligent and good looking a body of men, and we wish you to feel at home while among us, to feel that you are among your friends and brethren.

You have come from all parts of this great State—a State great in its resources, great in heroic deeds, great in the intelligence and enterprise of its people. You come, representing 20,000 of the citizens of this commonwealth, through each of whose hearts there runs the magnetic, the silver cord of sympathy and affection, binding all into a unity of fraternity and fellowship, inspiring all with that "noble contention, or rather emulation, who can best work and best agree."

Freemasonry has come down to us over the stormy waves of many centuries, but in all ages and in all climes, it has been animated by the same spirit—its watchword has been peace, and, as it has gone forth on its benign embassy, it has proclaimed "Peace on earth, good will to man." It has assuaged the horrors of war; it has dried the widow's and orphan's tear; it has preserved the pure Word of God; it has lingered at the bedside of suffering and death, and has mingled its tears with those who have scaled the lone, chill, heights of sorrow. When the earth shall have

become fully imbued with the spirit and teachings of Masonry, men shall learn war no more, and the reunited race of Adam shall clasp around the earth, and as men become more fully imbued with the spirit, and observe and obey the teachings of our Order, in so far they measure up towards the stature of that perfect manhood exemplified in the life and character of the Divine Teacher, the spotless Nazarene. You, officers and members of the Grand Lodge, have come here to promote this great good, and we, your brethren of Davenport, salute you, we *greet you*, we WELCOME YOU.

It seems that the Grand Lodge of Iowa is peripatetic, at least in the sense of having no abiding city; no continuing place for its meetings, as we observe in these minutes a vote designating CEDAR RAPIDS "as *the* place for the next meeting"; which vote was unfixed by "reconsideration," and after "consideration" again was it determined that "the next meeting be held at CEDAR RAPIDS." One advantage, at least, inures to Iowa in its perambulatory habits—she incurs no DEBT in erecting a *spacious* TEMPLE for instance, to spread confusion among the Craft. But, without a *home*, pray tell us, Brother Parvin, how can you take care of the splendid library which we observe is adding from year to year to its proportions and value under your fostering care? We don't exactly see how you can afford to move about, so much, with the many valuable treasures in the Grand Secretary's care and custody.

But this is irrelevant, and we return to our legitimate duty of reviewing what he has "given us to know" in the very interesting "proceedings" before us. Here we must, even though it be parenthetically, sound a note of admiration! for a thing of beauty is this Report, this volume, full to overflowing with matter of superior excellence, adorned with all the arts and embellishments of typographical skill.

How shall we dare to mar these beautifully illustrated pages by clippings? But, it must needs be done, or our occupation is gone! So here we go, with free scissors, intent on gleanings which shall re-echo in Alabama the thoughts uttered in Iowa.

The Grand Master's Address is eloquent and admirably adapted to its purpose as a message of congratulation, review and admonition. He announces the Grand Lodge as "at peace with all the world," with "but one exception," and we were not surprised to find, as we continued to read his address, that *this exception* was our worthy sister of SCOTLAND—who again, as in the MISSOURI case a year or two ago, applied her craftman skill to American material, "Kilwinning Lodge No. 2" being now, as then, the cause of trouble by Initiating, Passing and Raising a young medical student of Iowa, temporarily sojourning in Edinburgh, attending medical lectures. Iowa remonstrated, urged Territorial rights and her SOVEREIGNTY as a recognized Grand Lodge; but without avail.

The Grand Lodge of Scotland did not interpose, and Kilwinning, hoary (perhaps imbecile?) with age, treats the respectful remonstrance of Iowa as an interference with Scotch privileges. So will all such disputes end, for Scotch egotism and tenacity of purpose is proof against all reasonable appeals. Brethren of Iowa, your final effort to secure justice, the interchange of Representatives, will be alike fruitless of satisfactory results. Scotland is obstinate, and determined not to see herself "as others see" her, and American Grand Lodges must either submit to her interference or unitedly rebuke her aggressions.

He alludes pleasantly to the Massachusetts Grand Lodge Centennial, to which Iowa was invited, (why not Alabama, or *was* she bidden to the feast?)

He thinks they have too many Lodges for the good of Masonry, and is therefore loth to grant dispensations for new organizations. He refused several applications therefor, but did issue dispensations for seven new Lodges.

Of the fraternal dead he speaks eloquently, not neglecting "the less PROMINENT Brother," of whom he says, that "he who has zealously discharged his obligations as a man and a mason; who has in his own small sphere of masonic action silently and unostentatiously contributed his mite towards upholding "the banner of light;" who has quietly and unassumingly been contented with subordinate positions in his own lodge, and merely by accident not received that recognition at the hands of the craft at large which his ability, his brightness, and his devotion to the Order would demand and require; he who remains unhonored and unsung. save in that small circle or band of brothers who mourn his loss.

"Whose chain is broken,
And where life can never
This fondest link supply."

Of him I would fain sing a song of praise, and on a memorial page insert his name in indelible characters, inscribing as a requiem—

"Brother, thou art gone to rest,
We will not weep for thee,
For thou art now where oft on earth
Thy spirit longed to be.

"Brother, thou art gone to rest,
Thy toils and cares are o'er;
And sorrow, pain, and suffering now,
Shall ne'er disturb thee more.

"Brother, thou art gone to rest,
And this shall be our prayer—
That when we reach our journey's end,
Thy glory we shall share."

"The LAMB SKIN OR WHITE LEATHER APRON," he thinks (as we do and practice,) should be *given* to the initiate, to become his property, and says:

"It thus becomes a souvenir to be treasured by him who has been permitted to enter the inner door, and will remain an heir-loom in his family, calling forth recollections of his connection with the brethren of the mystic tie. The Worshipful Master, when performing the impressive ceremonies of initiation, need not reserve in his mind the thought that such presentation is but temporarily transferring the property of the lodge, but that this "badge of a Mason" is a gift to the novice from the experts around him, ever to remind him to keep that garment, as his own, unspotted and untarnished before the world.

His references to subjects of local importance are full and judicious, and he thus closes a long and excellent address, viz:

And now, brethren of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, the parting hour has come; the dim shadow of my official connection with you is fast fading, and will soon disappear beyond that horizon which shall give to you the brighter and more radiant rays of an abler and wiser successor. By your generous preference, and by your kind encouragement, I have ventured, step by step, forward and onward, up the incline of official life, until I have reached the highest pinnacle of a mason's ambition. There I have rested my vision on a scene unveiled to but few, and tasted of the fruits so attractive and tempting to those below. Willingly do I now retrace my steps to return to that level from whence I came, praying only that I be permitted to retain those fragrant flowers of devoted friendship I have gathered on the way.

And in passing along the opened ranks to resume my former station, should I, on the one side, hear the soft whisperings of approval of the aged and veteran leaders of the craft, and on the other meet the extended hand of welcome, prompted by honest inspirations of regard and esteem, gratefully will I turn to Him, the origin of all wisdom, strength, and love, and in after hours of happy contentment and ease, thankfully acknowledge His guidance and direction on my venturesome journey.

Farewell, then. My best wishes and heart yearnings will ever be with the generous and noble-hearted fraters of Iowa. May I be permitted to often meet with those who have so generously extended the covering of forbearance over my shortcomings; may I often yet enjoy the magnetic pulsations of a sensitive heart when touched by the electric influence of our annual gatherings. And should, perchance, in the unknown and distant future, my lot of life be cast in some other clime, the shining light of grateful remembrance will ever encircle that brightest spot in my life's history.

The general proceedings of this communication are remarkably interesting and afford not only agreeable, but also instructive reading.

The reports of R. W. Brother Parvin, Grand Secretary, are characteristically able and exhaustive, and comprise his

GRAND ANNUAL REPORT—A REPORT ON "FRATERNAL DEAD,"

in which his facile pen records in words of fitting eulogy and sympathy Iowa's tribute to the worthy dead of her own and other jurisdictions.

He also submits an elaborate report as Grand Librarian. We note here, too, our appreciation of the reports of COMMITTEES, which furnish usually a fair criterion for judging the general intelligence of a Grand Lodge—in this respect Iowa suffers nothing in comparison with similar deliverances in other Grand Jurisdictions.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

We have again the pleasure in this department of reading after Brother William B. Langridge whose report, though very brief, includes a review of the proceedings of (40) forty Grand Lodges, among which those of Alabama, 1876, have acceptable attention, though received too late for general review. We have a fancy for Brother Langridge's peculiar, manly pure and forcible as of the olden time style of writing, and very much regret his announcement of this as his last report. May we meet again, my Brother, in some other branch of masonic labor and duty. Iowa gives us a treat in a very eloquent Oration, by Brother Moses A. McCoid, printed in the appendix of this volume of proceedings. We would gladly aid in extending its circle of reading, but our space will not admit of extracts sufficiently lengthy to afford a fair specimen of its style or excellence of thought. We make room, however, for a few paragraphs enforcing views quite in conformity with our own convictions, viz:

* * * * * * * * *

But, seriously, it is not my intention to discuss masonic antiquity; although, as I said, I am one of those who, with certain qualifications, believe, from the evidence, in its vast age. That anciently it was dressed in varied garbs, and practiced orgies of barbaric times; that it has been reorganized and made modern, is perhaps true. Revealed religion has had its dispensations and reformations, but loses thereby none of its antiquity.

Man instinctively housed away in his darkest day, in some secret order, the precious truths of nature, and has been gathering them from all ages. We have these contributions marked by penal forms, emblems, ancient words, hieroglyphics, signs, symbols, doctrines, and unalterable customs, leading back into every age, nation, country, and race. These came up from the uncertain ages in traditional form, claiming great antiquity, colored and tinctured as the limpid streams that come down from the mountain slopes, by the earth through which they pass, but the

same original elements emptying together, once more, into the pure river of the Masonry of civilization and modern time. From these evidences its vast age appears, as undeniable as that of our planet, which is written by the hand of God in the geological strata which wrap the globe.

And yet what great moral evil owes its existence, or the slightest encouragement, to Masonry? Where did it ever afflict humanity with a false idea? Where are its battlefields? It stands before us like Melchisedec before Abraham—to bless us.

If very ancient, it owes its preservation to some clear, commanding principles of right, which, when revealed to any age or race, win their conquering way against all opposition. Let the world apply to it the philosophy of Gamaliel to the Jewish council respecting Christianty—"Refrain from these men, and let them alone. If this counsel or this work be of man, it will come to naught; but if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it." There is great depth in that counsel. It is like this: Humanity moves onward, upward, irresistibly. Whatever is formed by men for selfish purposes may be controlled and overthrown, and will soon perish; but in its great ruling tendencies, it is God-like, omnipotent. You cannot overthrow it. Fight it not, but if you do, make up your mind to fight *God*. As religion is the revelation of the good will of God to man, so Masonry is the revelation of the good will of man to man, and its continued existence and survival over all opposition is evidence that it is within the tendencies of man to grow better.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Brother Zephaniah C. Luse.....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother Theodore S. Parvin (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges	348

Work.

Number	Initiated	1,073
"	Passed	1,018
"	Raised	1,056
"	Affiliated	509
"	Reinstated	53
"	Dimitted	878
"	Died	116
"	Suspended and expelled	49
"	Enrolled Master Masons	17,876

KANSAS.

In a neatly printed and very presentable volume of some four hundred pages we are favored with tidings from the M. W. Grand Lodge of Kansas, containing, amongst other interesting matter, the proceedings of two grand communications of that Grand Lodge. The first, held in the city of Leavenworth, Nov. 20th, 1875, was a memorial occasion, a grand tribute of respect to the memory of their *first* Grand Master, the late M. W. RICHARD R. REES, one who evidently deserved, as he undoubtedly received, the respect and love of his cotemporaries, and of whom Grand Master Isaac B. Sharp thus speaks in eloquent, yet withal, unattempted eulogy:

BRETHREN: It is for the performance of a solemn and sacred, albeit a sad duty, that you have been assembled in Special Communication to-day. Our Grand Master is dead, and though the secrets, the symbolism, and all the beautiful Ritual of Freemasonry survive in his Brethren, yet there lies silent and cold before us, the embodiment of much that is beautiful, all that is precious and pure in the character of the true Mason—there has fallen into the lap of earth the mature and golden fruit of Masonic teachings. It is not alone to pay the last tribute of respect to this, our deceased Grand Master, and to lay our offering of cypress and palm upon his tomb, that we come together, but also, let us hope, to be inspired by his pure and simple life, and to be elevated and strengthened by his example. There met and blended harmoniously in his character all the qualities of true manhood; the simplicity of a child, the wisdom of unpremeditated goodness, the firmness of stoical virtue, and the gentle, susceptible, melting heart of true and ever-present charity.

He was the pioneer of our Order in Kansas. He nursed this Grand Lodge in its infancy, and guided its uncertain footsteps, and sustained its failing strength by his earnest and unflagging enthusiasm. He saw this Grand Body through all the disasters of dark times and was with it when it finally emerged into the sunshine of a peace, a prosperity and mature strength, which it is our hope may always continue and be ever enhanced.

He it was who served as a cementing bond of affection between Masons; every Mason who knew him within the Jurisdiction, and there were few who did not, were united in loving and respecting Bro. REES, and with this fraternal motive in common, they the more earnestly loved each other and our glorious Order.

* * * * * * * * *

On the 18th of October, 1876, the Grand Lodge was again assembled, and held its twenty-first Grand Annual Communication on that and the day following; present, M. W. Isaac B. Sharp, with other Grand Officers and a quorum of Representatives from Subordinate Lodges.

The address of M. W. Grand Master Sharp is an able and interesting review of the year's doings, including appropriate suggestions on topics demanding legislation.

He says of the general condition of the craft in that jurisdiction :

I am most happy to state to you, that, with but a single exception, the greatest unanimity and harmony exist among the brethren in the Subordinate Lodges throughout our Jurisdiction, and prosperity and success seem to be crowning all their efforts ; and that but very few dissensions have arisen during the past year demanding the attention of the Committee on Grievances, or of this Grand Lodge ; the exception to which I refer will be fully brought to your notice and explained before I close, and will demand your close and careful consideration, that no wrong may be inflicted and yet full and complete justice may be done in the premises.

This "exception," we may as well state here, was the *contumacy* of Frankfort Lodge No. 67, in refusing to mete out punishment adequate to the offense of a member whose *influence* over a majority of its members seemed paramount to their allegiance to the Grand Lodge. For though ordered to *retry* and expel the guilty party, they persistently refused to obey the edict, and the Grand Master was forced to suspend the charter and work of the Lodge, which was approved by the Grand Lodge in the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge approves of the action of M. W. Grand Master Sharp in suspending the Jewel of Frankfort Lodge No. 67, and that the Charter of said Lodge be and the same is hereby revoked.

The Grand Master was called upon to decide many questions of law and usage during the year, and reports *thirty-three* decisions, all of which appear to us quite unobjectionable. We quote a few of them as of general interest, viz :

Statement—A profane residing within the Jurisdiction of Lodge No. 17, petitions it for the degrees of Masonry, which is received, and after due proceedings had, the applicant is rejected. He then removes within the jurisdiction of Lodge No. 132, and petitions it for the degrees in Masonry, which petition is received by No. 132, and without the consent of No. 17, or the waiver of any of its rights, No. 132 accepts the applicant and confers upon him the E. A. Degree. The applicant before receiving any further Degrees removes back within the jurisdiction of No. 17, and petitioned No. 17 for the F. C. and M. M.'s Degrees.

Query—To which Lodge does the candidate belong and what is his status ?

Answer—The candidate having first applied to No. 17 for the Degrees, it obtained jurisdiction over him, although it rejected him, and he became its *material*, and without the consent of No. 17, no Lodge could legally receive and act on his petition. No. 132 did so act and conferred the E. A. Degree, which act was unauthorized and a violation of Masonic law. No. 17 having obtained jurisdiction and never having waived it, has now full jurisdiction and control of the candidate. The action of No. 132 in no wise interfered with its rights, and on demand of No. 17, No. 132 should pay over to No. 17 any money received on said petition. The candidate having received the E. A. Degree and having the right to suppose No. 132 was proceeding regularly, and being in no wise to blame

for their action, need only petition No. 17 for the F. C. and M. M. Degrees.

A Lodge U. D. has no authority to try a brother. The charges and specifications must be sent to the nearest chartered Lodge for trial.

When charges have been regularly preferred against a brother, and on trial, after due proceedings had, the brother is found guilty and the punishment awarded is (indefinite) suspension, from which trial, findings and sentence of the Lodge the brother takes an appeal to the Grand Lodge, and the appeal being heard, the decision of the Subordinate Lodge is affirmed, it is then too late for the Subordinate Lodge to seek to restore the suspended brother by reconsidering the vote by which he was suspended. It can not be done. The brother may petition the Lodge for restoration, which petition should go through all the forms of one applying for affiliation, except that it only requires a two-thirds vote to restore the brother applying therefor, and not an unanimous vote, as in case for affiliation.

A Lodge cannot act upon the petition of a candidate for the Degrees who has been rejected in a foreign Jurisdiction, without first obtaining the consent of the Lodge that rejected him.

A man who is habitually addicted to the use of profane language is not a proper subject for the mysteries of Masonry, until a reformation in that respect takes place.

A Lodge U. D. cannot adopt by-laws. Lodges U. D. are to be governed by the Ancient Landmarks, the General Regulations of the Order and the specific Constitution of the Grand Lodge under whose Jurisdiction they are, together with the By-Laws of the same.

The rule of physical disqualification does not apply, when the disqualification occurs after the candidate has been made a Mason, therefore the loss of the left arm by a candidate after he had received the E. A. Degree will not disqualify him from receiving the F. C. and M. M.'s Degrees, if otherwise worthy to be advanced.

The proceedings of Kansas, now under review, relate mainly to topics of local interest, which were discussed as well as disposed of with commendable intelligence and dispatch.

One local grievance, however, carried with it conditions and principles extending in their influence far beyond the borders of Kansas. We allude to the appeal of Alpha Lodge No. 122, "located at Fort Gibson, Cherokee Nation," "and holding its charter from the Grand Lodge of Kansas" for the protection against the edict of the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory, arresting its charter. This appeal opens up a serious question of jurisdiction, which neither the Grand Lodge of Kansas nor that of the Indian Territory can ignore. The first is bound in all honor to protect and defend the rights of its subordinate, while on the part of the latter, its edict against Alpha assumes an authority which, if not sustained by fact and usage, recoils with disastrous effect upon its sovereignty. The Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory has not been recognized by either Arkansas or Kansas the two Grand Lodges of contiguous juris-

diction, and we cannot see how the action against ALPHA (one of the subjects of Kansas) can be sustained if Kansas persists in defending as it now does, the following declarations of that Lodge in this controversy, viz:

From this it will be seen that we decline to surrender our Charter or suspend our work until you can be communicated with, and your advice be obtained. We have done so through no contumacious spirit or unfriendly feeling, but because we hold ourselves bound by the action of the Grand Lodge of the State of Kansas in refusing to recognize the legality of the Grand Lodge, so-called, of the Indian Territory, and because we have been informed that the Grand Lodge of the State of Arkansas, from which the Lodges organizing the Grand Lodge obtained their Charters, has pursued the same course.

This Lodge desires to cultivate none but fraternal feelings and to comply with each and all of its duties in the premises, but it adheres to its original position on the subject of the formation of the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory. It believes it unnecessary and inexpedient on account of the reasons already stated. The Indian Territory, so-called, is no State or Territory of the United States, in the technical sense of those terms.

The Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge established, has, we are informed, no legal status as a citizen of Indian country, but is liable, in common with some other officers of that Lodge, to be removed beyond its limits at any time by the direction of the President of the United States, and further the Cherokee Nation, where this Lodge and Flint Lodge are located, owe no legal obligations to the remainder of the country styled the Indian Territory, any more than does the Choctaw or the Creek Nation, whose respective bounds and rights are separated and defined as clearly as those of any State or Territory of the United States.

For these reasons we protest against the action of the said Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory as uncalled for and unfraternal, and ask for your immediate advice and directions in the future, and by which action we will be governed.

The Grand Lodge refused, as heretofore, to recognize the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory (after a full and able discussion of the question), but did recognize and "welcome into the circle of Grand Lodges" those of "Manitoba" and "Prince Edwards Island."

An interesting feature of these proceedings is a long and able committee report on "colored Masonry," taking position quite in harmony with the opinions heretofore expressed by this writer. We extract a few sentences from the conclusions of this committee (consisting of Brothers D. Rockaway, John M. Price, and Owen A. Bassett), viz:

Grand Master Battin, in his Address to the Grand Lodge of Ohio in 1875, speaking of his own and the so-called Colored Grand Lodge of Ohio, says:

"In this great Centennial year, whilst liberty and equality are shed abroad through our great nation, is it not right and proper that we, as

Masons, shall at least attempt to bring about, by right and proper means and in a legal manner, a union of those two Grand Lodges in one State? If there is any illegality in the organization of either, let it be healed. It has been done before, and it can be done again."

Why should not Bro. Battin say to these colored men: If you want the benefits of Masonry, present your petitions to the Lodges in whose jurisdiction you reside? Perhaps Bro. Battin would say that their petitions would be rejected. Are there not fifty thousand white men in Ohio whose petitions would be rejected? And if they should for that reason organize themselves into clandestine Lodges and a Grand Lodge, would Bro. Battin say, "heal and admit them?"

That system of treatment would nullify the ballot, and make the Tiler a supernumerary.

We sincerely trust that this question has no political significance in it, and hope that no one will have the temerity of handling politics with the Trowel. In view of the possible consequences, it cannot be a matter of surprise that most of the American Grand Lodges practically say "hands off," so far as this question is concerned. In most of the Jurisdictions in which regulations forbidding the initiation of Colored men have existed, these odious rules have been swept away, and the African, like the other races of men, left to present himself on his merits, and like other men succeed or fail on them.

Your Committee are unable to see why any special regulation for or against him should be adopted. That having been the rule so far in this Jurisdiction we think it a good one and it should not be changed.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

An able and very readable report on Correspondence was presented by Brother John H. Brown, Chairman, in which he reviews the proceedings of some fifty Grand Lodges, including those of Alabama for 1875, to which he appropriates ample space and commendation, treating its deliverances with fraternal and complimentary recognition, for which we thank him. We would gladly tarry a while with Brother B., but our time in Kansas "is up," and we must hasten away to other "fields" and "pastures new"—leaving much unsaid that we intended to remark in reference to these proceedings.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Jacob D. Rush.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. John H. Brown, (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... 166

Work.

Number	Initiated	449
"	Passed	393
"	Raised	433
"	Affiliated	420
"	Reinstated	56
"	Dimitted	394
"	Died	63
"	Suspended	143
"	Expelled	12
"	Of Enrolled Master Masons	6,896

KENTUCKY.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Kentucky, held its (77th) Seventy-Seventh Grand Annual Communication at Louisville, commencing Tuesday, October 19th, 1876. Present, Jno. H. Leathers, M. W. Grand Master, with numerous Grand and Past Grand Officers, and a large attendance of Representatives of Subordinate Lodges.

The proceedings are voluminous and interesting; presented, however, in a style of typographical execution far behind this age of improvement—the paper is course and discolored, while the print is abominably blurred as if some prentice hand had been used at the press work.

We note that "immediately after the opening of the Grand Lodge, M. W. Palmer J. Pillans, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Alabama was introduced to the Grand Lodge and received with the Grand Honors and seated in the East"—a compliment to our honored and worthy Grand Master, which Alabama appreciates and gratefully acknowledges.

M. W. Grand Master Leathers greeted the Grand Lodge with an impressive and very appropriate annual address, from which we shall quote as freely as our space will permit. After a few introductory sentences, he thus proceeds:

> The general depression of the times, which has affected every portion of our country, has not spared Masonic work. Accessions to our Order have not been as large as in previous years, and the aggregate membership of Subordinate Lodges reported this year will, probably, be smaller than any number reported for the past five years. Yet, while we may not be able to boast of large additions to our numbers, we have no ground for alarm; on the contrary, we have cause for a hearty congratulation that the Order is in a healthy and flourishing condition, and peace and harmony prevail among our Lodges.
>
> The genuine test of Masonic growth is not in numbers, but rather in

character, and in this respect there is reason to believe that higher intellectual and moral attainments are aimed at by the Craft, and greater solicitude felt for the purity and integrity of our membership than ever before.

In the assembling of ourselves together, from year to year, to discharge the important duties committed to our trust by a confiding Brotherhood, it is proper that we should begin our labors by taking a retrospect of the past; to consider the responsibilities of the present; to call to mind the purposes which induced wise and good men to found our noble Order, and, in the light of past teachings, to devise such measures as will tend to advance the cause of Masonry and thereby elevate and bless mankind.

HISTORICAL REVIEW.

The innumerable company of good and true men in every age of the world who have patronized Masonic assemblies, and have encouraged and promoted its interests, were actuated by the noble desire of benefiting their fellow men, and bettering their condition amid the cares and sorrows of life. To promote mutual welfare, to sustain each other in adversity, to relieve each other in distress, to care for the widow and the orphan, to sympathize with the distressed in their affliction, to succor and aid in the adversity of a brother, to rejoice with him in his prosperity, to defend his helplessness, and to whisper good counsel in his ear, and to aid him in every lawful and laudable undertaking, is the great aim we have in view.

Other and kindred institutions have risen and flourished for a time, then decayed and died. Masonry has witnessed their rise and their fall, but Time, the great leveller of all, has only added fresh vigor to its illustrious past and crowned its record with the splendor of immortal years. Well may the mighty English people,

> "Whose flag has braved a thousand years
> The battle and the breeze,"

point to its national emblem with the profoundest pride and pleasure, but we stand here this day part of an Order whose birth is nearly commensurate with Time itself--tracing its origin back almost to the hour when the Supreme Ruler said, "Let there be light"--an Order, too, which seeks no political power, nor yearns for the gratification of no sordid ambitions, but which finds its vitality and force in its good deeds to men, and its greatest triumphs in the gratitude of the suffering and distressed.

It is but natural and just that we should feel a proper pride in the long list of renowned names in all ages, past and present, who have shed so much lustre upon our Order, and a veneration for an institution so illustrious in the world's history, and around which so many sacred associations cluster. Let us, as we meet here, the representatives of more than twenty thousand Masons, to legislate for the future welfare of the Craft, stand firm in our devotion to the governing principles of our time honored Order. Let us be true and faithful to the solemn trusts committed to our care, and prove ourselves the worthy successors of our distinguished Masonic predecessors. The experience of centuries teaches us that charity

to mankind and love to the brethren have ever been the leading and guiding principles of our noble Craft. Thank God, such principles have been the treasure of true Masonic fidelity, and its strength and fortress, perpetuating its vitality amid the decadence of other institutions, and establishing it upon a foundation "steadfast and immovable." These are the works which will stand the test of the Great Overseer's square. Bigotry and oppression may war against us in vain. While we have these works to commend us, if "God be for us, who shall be against us?"

* * * * * * * * *

The HOME next engages his attention, and very properly too, for we regret to see that the well matured plan of relief for Widows' and Orphans' Home of the last session, known as the "Bond Proposition," had failed of ratification when submitted to a vote of the Lodges, and that institution was still in need of assistance to complete necessary additions and improvements to the buildings. It seems that Grand Lodge could not, without the assent of the Lodges, vote the appropriations needed, and we regret to see what we take to be an intention on the part of a majority of the Lodges to shirk their duty in this matter and desert the Home in its time of need. But we will let the Grand Master speak on this subject and after quoting his remarks give such extracts from the proceedings on this subject as will indicate the probable result of the new effort. We hope the Home is saved, but doubt the generosity and good will of the Lodges. In reference to the HOME the Grand Master says:

"The Endowment Fund, including the munificent donations of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, amounts to one hundred and thirty-eight thousand four hundred and sixty-one dollars and seventy-two cents ($138,461.72), yielding an income of about ten thousand dollars a year, which is only sufficient to take care of the present number of inmates even at an average expense of but twenty-two cents a day for each beneficiary

There can be no question, brethren, that we have reached THE CRISIS in the history of the Home, and a failure to take proper action will not and can not relieve us of our responsibility in the premises. We may as well look this matter squarely in the face.

The Architect estimates that it will require about forty-five thousand dollars to finish the building and fit it for occupation. The work is of too great magnitude to attempt to carry it on further by the voluntary contributions of the Craft. The Grand Lodge must now assume the responsibility of providing, by legislation, the means to complete and endow this great work or bear the ignominy of its failure.

If Kentucky Masonry is satisfied with what has been done and can rest content to do no more, then discharge all the workmen now engaged upon the unfinished portions of the building and there let it stand in its huge proportions, unfinished and desolate, and in sad contrast to the finished portions of the Home with its one hundred and twenty-eight happy inmates.

Great as is the glory reflected upon the Order by what has been done, it were far better for the name of Masonry in Kentucky that a stone had

never been laid than to stop where we are. It is the great work of the Craft and its proudest achievement. Completed—an imperishable monument of Masonic benevolence and charity. Unfinished—a shame and reproach to men who had the noble and generous impulses to devise a scheme which their indifference prevented them from carrying out.

Its bleak, unadorned and tenantless walls cry out at this hour for the means to make it the habitation of those who, by the decrees of fate, are compelled to bear cheerless poverty and an unprotected and defenseless existence. From every part of the Commonwealth, almost from every Lodge, comes the plaint of the helpless infant, or the wail of the broken hearted widow, begging for bread to feed and a home to shelter. These cries come not from strangers, they are from the loved ones of our brethren who have been called to the Grand Lodge above, and who departed hence strong in the faith and hope, that we who are left behind when they are gone would protect and defend their dear ones. These children, these widows, are the bequest to us of dead brethren, and mercy and justice, aside from all the solemn obligations of our Order, call us, aye, demand us, at this hour to prove worthy of the confidence of our dead and worthy the sublime principles of Masonry.

This earnest appeal, supplemented by two very able and eloquent reports, one from the TRUSTEES and the other from a special committee to whom the subject was referred, elicited a full discussion of the questions involved, occupying for two days much of the attention of the Grand Lodge, with what appears to us very unsatisfactory results. The HOME needed aid to the extent of say $100,000, and the Grand Lodge could only respond by submitting anew to the Lodges a proposition for *assessment* of $1 per capita of members annually for five years. Admitting that this relief, if granted, would suffice, how slim the prospect of aid from Lodges that had just voted down a proposition for contributions of only 50 cents per capita per annum.

We fear the Home is to suffer if this is the only means of help and succor.

We have said, perhaps, too much on this subject for an outsider; but we view the matter in the light of a great Masonic effort, in the success or failure of which the Fraternity at large are interested. If the Grand Lodge of Kentucky can not sustain itself in this noble undertaking, then will Masonic charity and liberality suffer reproach and be scoffed at. The failure of Kentucky would also, alas! tend to discourage and hinder all similar enterprises elsewhere, and for long years to come, to the detriment of Masonry and of its helpless dependents. Heaven grant that the Lodges, to whom the fate of this measure is now entrusted, may so act as to avert the calamity we fear.

The proceedings, apart from the subject above discussed, are mainly confined to routine business and we can not notice them further, except

to extract from the Grand Master's address a few of his decisions, some of which diverge a little from our usage. We refer especially to No's 4, 7 and 17 :

"4. The burial service for the dead is part of the labor of the Lodge. Therefore, it is improper to call from 'Labor to Refreshment' when the Lodge leaves its hall to follow the remains of a deceased brother to their last resting place.

5. A candidate for Masonry must be of sound body and mind. He must possess no deformity which would interfere with his giving all Masonic signs and steps in ancient form. Likewise, a brother who has been initiated or passed, but since that time has lost a limb or become maimed by any accident, should not be advanced. He must be physically qualified to receive the mysteries of the Order according to ancient form, and in his turn instruct others.

6. A legal summons should have the Master's signature and the seal of the Lodge attached, and must be placed in the hands of a brother who can testify that the summons was duly served.

7. The right to dimit from his Lodge is said to be an inherent right belonging to every Mason, and if an inherent right a vote should not be taken on the application for a dimit, the petitioner being clear of the books and no charges against him. When a brother makes application for a dimit, and no objections are interposed, the Master should instruct the Secretary to make the record and to issue the certificate.

8. A Lodge can not grant a dimit *conditionally*. After a dimit has been granted to a brother the withholding of the certificate, or written evidence of the Lodge's action, does not make the dimitted brother any the less a non-affiliated Mason. It is the action of the Lodge on the application, and not the written evidence, that regulates his standing.

9. A Lodge not having jurisdiction over a candidate receives his petition for initiation and rejects him. The Lodge having jurisdiction may receive and act upon such candidate's petition as if no application had been made.

10. The accuser as well as the accused, in a Lodge trial, or any member of a Lodge feeling aggrieved at the decision of his Lodge may appeal from such decision to the Grand Lodge.

11. A regularly elected and installed Master of a Lodge remains in office until his successor is duly elected and installed. The fact of his successor having been elected does not qualify him to preside as Master until he has been duly installed.

12. No one is eligible to the office of Master who has not served as Warden in some regularly constituted Lodge of Masons.

13. Any brother who refuses to obey the request of the Master to take his turn with the other brethren in sitting up with a sick member of his Lodge is guilty of unmasonic conduct and is amenable to charges.

14. The Master of a Lodge should not confer any degree upon any candidate elected to receive the same until such time as he thinks proper.

15. A suspended Mason, against whom charges have been preferred, has a right to be admitted into the Lodge during his trial.

16. Any by-law making a limit to the number of years a Master of a Lodge may serve is unconstitutional. The Master of a Masonic Lodge

may serve in such capacity as many terms as the members of his Lodge may elect him.

17. When a candidate has received one or more degrees in Masonry, and objection is made to his advancement, the brother should have a trial when he demands it, that he may have an opportunity of meeting his accuser face to face and vindicating his character if unjustly aspersed. N. B.—I know that many brethren will not coincide in this opinion, yet, while the right of a brother to cast a black ball, irresponsibly, as between himself and his conscience is fully conceded, a candidate who has taken but one degree in Masonry has obtained certain Masonic rights, and among them the right of being heard in his own defense when objection is made against him.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Brother Thomas Todd, Chairman, furnishes a very acceptable report on this topic, reviewing judiciously and ably the proceedings of some fifty American and European Grand Lodges.

He gives the proceedings of Alabama for 1875 full space, quoting G. M. Wilson's decisions, as reported for that year in full, and quoting freely also from our report on correspondence.

Brother Todd furnishes us a very interesting resume of Grand Lodge intelligence from Europe, and we extract an item under the caption of Hungary, which relates to a question still pending before our Grand Lodge or at least not definitely disposed of, an application for recognition from

HUNGARY.

We have received various documents from, and have also been favored with a personal interview with a brother commissioned to represent the Grand Orient of Hungary in this country, and if possible to secure its acknowlment by the American Grand Lodges.

The state of the case is briefly as follows:

1. There is in Hungary a Grand Lodge (Independent) formed by the concurrence of a number of Subordinate Symbolic Lodges, the charters of which came from the Grand Orient of France. Like the American Grand Lodges, this body admits no superior, and governs its subordinates as we do ours. It has, however, never applied to us for recognition, and we are, therefore. not advised as to its special methods and claims.

2. There is a Supreme Council, and within and subject to it a Grand Orient, which has a number of Subordinate Lodges (some twenty odd), some of which were established by the Grand Orient of France, and some of its own creation.

This Body applies to us for recognition and interchange of Representatives.

On the principle which, for some years past, has governed this Grand Lodge, and which is at the foundation of our system of Masonic govern-

ment, namely, that we can only enter into correspondence and official relations with bodies which are in all respects our peers, that is to say, sovereign and supreme in their respective jurisdictions, we can only decline the proffered interchange of Representatives.

If there were any hope that a recommendation on our part would be heeded, we should advise the Grand Orient to turn over its Lodge to the existing Grand Lodge; acknowledge that as the supreme and sole authority for the Symbolic Degrees; dissolve itself back into the Supreme Council, and make a regulation that all candidates for the advanced grades must previously have received the three first degrees in some regular Lodge, and then the difficulty would be solved.

If the American Grand Lodges will stand together on this question these divided authorities on matters pertaining to Subordinate Lodges will soon disappear.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. R. M. Fairleigh.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Jno. M. Todd, (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges.....		498
	(and 7 U. D.)	
Number Initiated.....		1166
"	Dimitted.....	973
"	Died.....	294
"	Suspended.....	1191
"	Of Enrolled Master Masons.....	21, 237

LOUISIANA.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana held its (65th) sixty-fifth Annual Grand Communication in the city of New Orleans, commencing Monday the 12th day of October, 1877, and closing the following Saturday, 17th.

The Lodge was opened by M. W. John Graham Fleming in AMPLE FORM; present, besides the Grand Officers and Grand Representatives, Delegates from sixty-six chartered Lodges. The Grand Master's annual address is fully up to the standard of his former deliverances, this being his fourth address from the Grand East. It is thoughtful, eloquent and instructive.

He says of Masonry in that jurisdiction what may appropriately be applied to it in our own State, and, indeed, in all sections of the American Union, for every where in this country the commotions of the recent past are developing effects more or less injurious to our social and industrial organizations. But time and patience will bring *order* out of *confusion*,

and Masonry, with its organizing and cementing power and influences, will be one of the acknowledged agencies in dispelling the mists and clouds that now depress our social and civil atmosphere. We quote as follows:

* * * * * * * * *

"It might be reasonably supposed that in the midst of such Divine favors we could not but be prosperous and contented, both as a people and a fraternity; but I regret that such is not the case. We are a part, and a very important part, of the Commonwealth, and can not but share in the general misfortunes as they come upon the stage of life to play their part in the history of human affairs. When war or sectional or religious or political strife springs up, we can not help but suffer with the rest of our fellow citizens, and no matter how much we may desire, or how hard we may strive to prevent these evils from having a blighting influence on us as an Order, we can not entirely succeed.

During the past ten years we have witnessed the working out, in part, of one of the most extraordinary political problems that has ever been attempted by any government, nation or people. A race of men numbering millions, have been emancipated from slavery, and not only invested with the right of suffrage and all other civil rights, but, so far as this State is concerned, have been elevated to be at once its law-makers and rulers. I leave the casuist, the philosopher and the politician to discuss the probable ultimate result of this experiment; but so far it has been a sad one to us. It has not only impoverished hundreds of our best citizens, but it has laid an embargo, as it were, upon industrial pursuits, and established a standing premium for duplicity and villainy, and, worse than all, has filled the land with discord and demoralization and destitution. I am loth to believe that men are naturally any worse now than they were in the past. I believe that they are in the present day and generation, as I believe they always have been, more liable to err from a want of resolution to do right than from a disposition to do wrong, and that they would prefer to do right if they were not virtually punished for doing it. In the general estimation of the world wealth is considered essential to honor, although it is not and should not be so, and the high road to wealth seems now to lead only through the bogs and chapparels of corruption and intrigue. But yet all this may be a blessing in disguise. It might come to pass that the evils produced by it will cause a spirit of reformation to rise that will crush it and establish a more happy condition of affairs. For the present, it behooves us to guard well our doors and our interests, that none of this discord may enter the one or injure the other. * * * * * *

Grand Master Fleming recommends, and the Grand Lodge approved, the full restoration of fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Canada.

He denounces the "Ontario" revolt, and respecting the sentence of expulsion against those Brethren, declared by Canada, issued a circular forbidding all intercourse with them within the jurisdiction of Louisiana.

He announces the cessation of official intercourse between Louisiana

and the "Grand mother Lodge of the Eclectic Union" at Frankfort-on-the-Main," and the "Grand Lodge of Saxony" at Dresden. The accredited representatives of Louisiana to these Grand Bodies having failed, after diligent effort, to secure from those Lodges a proper recognition of the American doctrine of "exclusive Grand Lodge sovereignty" (for which Louisiana was contending), and resigned their positions. No successors were appointed.

The following pleasant incident is narrated under the head of

MARYLAND.

On the last day of our Grand Annual Communication of 1876, I read a letter from M. W. Brother John H. B. Latrobe, Grand Master of Maryland, requesting me to assist in finding and returning to his home a boy by the name of Arthur Crane, who was said to be some where on the Chenier Islands, which lie on the southwestern coast of the State, and in destitute condition. I, through the aid of a gentleman living in that section, found the lad, and sent money there to pay his expenses to Galveston, and placed money in the hands of C. A. Whitney & Co. to pay his passage from there here. When he arrived I found him to be a boy about 13 years old, of remarkable intelligence for his age, but frank and modest withal, but in most miserable plight so far as clothing was concerned. He told me the history of his travels and cause of his leaving home, and of his anxiety to return to his mother. I bought him clothing and a through ticket to Baltimore, and furnished him money to pay his expenses home. His father, who died some years ago, was a prominent Mason and a Judge of the Supreme Court of Maryland.

Grand Master Latrobe, in his address to the Grand Lodge, has done me much honor, and, as I drew the money expended ($69) from the Relief Lodge, by the consent of its officers, I desire that the Grand Lodge will share the honors with me by approving of my action. M. W. Brother Latrobe informed me, in the first place, of the former standing of the child's father and the helpless condition of his mother.

CONDITION OF THE CRAFT.

Under this caption the Grand Master presents some judicious views that will apply quite as well to other jurisdictions, viz:

* * * * But few degrees have been conferred, and the old complaint of the non-payment of dues is still prevalent.

It seems to me that much good might be done by a more prompt action on the part of the Secretaries in collecting dues. A distinguished Divine once said "that there were three steps to perdition: the first, a neglect of religious duties; the next, a refusal to perform them; and the third, to curse God and religion both;" and it seems to me about the same way with some of our brothers in regard to Lodge dues. They first neglect to pay them, until the sum becomes a large or important one, and then they refuse to pay, and if disciplined for it they abuse the institution. I

think it would be worth trying to collect them in small sums, as they accrue.

There is another kind of debt that is working great harm, and that is the indebtedness of the Lodges.

When Pompey the Great told the Dictator of Rome that "more worshipped the rising than the setting sun," he uttered a great truth, that applies to institutions as well as individuals. When a Lodge is known to be prosperous and carefully managed, it is generally popular. especially with its own members, who take a pride in attending it; but if it becomes involved in debt, and particularly so if brought to that condition by mismanagement, then much of the interest and pride felt by the members in its welfare is lost. Let a Lodge, or any other institution, be known to be involved in debt, or on the decline, and there are but few proselytes to do it reverence or share its embarrassed fortunes.

So far as a Masonic Lodge is concerned, indebtedness often proves fatal to it, when otherwise it has every opportunity to succeed. The discussion of the debt often produces discord and is a source of continual annoyance to the members, and to avoid discussing it some dimit and others, although they pay their dues, never attend the meetings of the Lodge. I do not think it proper that I should give the names of the Lodges, but there are several of them that are very much embarrassed, and, of course, declining as a consequence. * * * * *

He expresses our views exactly in the following extract, though we give preference to designs which look to the comfort of the widow and orphan in homes prepared for them by Craftsmen, who may then all the better enjoy the luxury of a grand

MASONIC TEMPLE.

There has been no move made during the past year to advance this enterprise, nor do I see how any thing can be done until there is a favorable change in real estate that will enable us to sell to advantage some of our surplus property. To see this edifice completed has been my greatest Masonic ambition, and will be until that ambition is gratified. I now feel that it is the duty of each and every one of us to unite in a determination to carry it forward. The foundation has, so far, cost the Grand Lodge nothing. It has been paid from the individual subscriptions of brethren and other liberal citizens, and it seems to me that there is a sacred obligation on our part not to abandon it.

Some are discouraged because no progress has been made for the past four years, but in the extraordinary condition of our public affairs is to be found an excuse for, and explanation of, that delay. Our brethren of New York persevered for thirty years to complete the magnificent temple that now adorns the great metropolis of their State, and reflects imperishable honor upon themselves, and which was begun with a one dollar subscription.

In order to improve our condition as a Fraternity, it is necessary that we should have some designs laid down upon our trestle board by which to work and for which to struggle. The erection of temples, schools and asylums stand as evidence of unity, strength and laudable ambition, and

not only secures the confidence and respect of mankind, but renders us more contented and happy with each other by encouraging and strengthening our own pride and welfare. We can not well afford to stand still; we owe it to those who may come after us to do our share in forwarding the interests of the institution, and if each generation as it passes through life will add some useful enterprise for the benefit of the Craft, its durability will be secured and its usefulness so manifested that the tongue of slander will be silenced and opposition cease.

In closing his address, Grand Master Fleming pays our R. W Brother James C. Batchelor, M. D., Grand Secretary, a well deserved compliment in expressions of earnest thanks for his constant, willing and most valuable aid in his official duties, and remembers with gratitude and affection his "undeviating kindness."

We are not surprised at this acknowledgment, for had we no other source of information the records of this Grand Lodge would fully attest the worth and efficiency of Brother Batchelor. His report, by the way, in these proceedings, is a model of labor and skill in his department. But from all sources we hear reports of Brother B. which corroborate all that Brother Fleming has said, and we have long since "assigned him a place among the Princes of the Realm."

In the foregoing copious extracts from the Grand Master's address we have, in addition to the desire to reproduce his views on important topics, a second object in view, viz: that of illustrating the action of the Grand Lodge on such subjects as were likely to interest our readers, by selecting from the address the topics which also engaged the attention of the Lodge and were approved by their acts. We may here state that the recommendations of the address were heartily approved by the Lodge. The business otherwise, although important in matter and proportions, was mainly of the character described as routine work.

We note as worthy of special praise, the able reports of the D. D. Grand Masters and other Grand officers, and are not unmindful of the intelligent reports and useful labors of the Committees on Jurisprudence, Appeals and Grievances, Work and Returns of Chartered Lodges, *Obituaries*, &c.

We note with approval the following repeal of (what we have considered an anomaly in masonry) the edict authorizing and constituting

LIFE MEMBERSHIP.

W. Brother D. R. Graham submitted the following preamble and resolution, which was submitted by the Committee on Work and Returns of Chartered Lodges, at the second day's session of the Communication of 1876, and offered the same anew.

On motion the same was unanimously adopted, viz:

Whereas, Many of the constituent lodges are laboring under embar-

rassing effects, ascribable to the "edict on life membership," (adopted February 16th, 1870,) as follows: "That to encourage the establishment of a system of life membership in lodges, the amount of dues to the Grand Lodge, for life members be remitted, if so created for a continuous service of not less than fifteen years;" and which, in the opinion of your committee, not only conduces to the subversion of the interests of the Grand Lodge, but incites in its operation consequential detriment to prosperity in the constituent lodges throughout the jurisdiction; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the edict quoted, and all edicts or resolutions concurring therewith, be repealed.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Bro. G. H. Braughn, as chairman, associated with Bros. Mord and Trimble, present the Report on Correspondence, and we greet with all the favor of the past, 'though when complimenting the committee heretofore we had a personal friend in view (Bro. Laffon DeLadebat) whose influence doubtless added interest to our reception of former reports. But we rather think our praises in the past were virtually unbiased, and we know *now* that there is nothing to hinder us from speaking all *we think* of the Louisiana report on correspondence for 1877; yet we say it is a very good, yea, an exceedingly interesting and instructive one.

We undertook to say something witty last year about our BATCHELOR Bro. of Louisiana, and the *printer* knocked our humor into nonsense by his types, so we had better be warned thereby and "steer close to the wind" of common parlance. So we get down to the practical. Bro. Braughn reviews very ably, and we think, judiciously, the proceedings of (55) fifty-five American and Foreign Grand Lodges, presenting a voluminous and valuable compendium of Masonic literature and incidents. We have consulted this report with *profit* on topics of general interest, especially in reference to the status of South American and Mexican Masonic Bodies.

Bro. B. need not fear the critics, nor doubt his own powers as he seems inclined to, judging from his apologetic "conclusion."

He gives to the proceedings of Alabama for 1875 very considerate attention and ample space. We thank him, too, for his kindly personal notice.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Brother Samuel James Powell.....Grand Master.

R. W. Brother J. C. Batchelor M. D. (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges	157
(With 3 U. D.)	

Work.

Number Initiated	216
" Passed	204
" Raised	211
" Affiliated	94
" Reinstated	64
" Dimitted	165
" Died	115
" Suspended and expelled	315
" Enrolled Master Masons	6,449

MAINE.

The (58th) fifty-eighth Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine assembled in the city of Portland, Tuesday, May 1st, 1877. Present, M. W. Grand Master Albert Moore, with his associate Officers and Representatives. The Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM, and after a busy session of three days, was closed in like form on the following Thursday, the 3d of May. Grand Master Moore's "Annual Address" is, as usual, quite appropriate to the occasion, and gives an interesting review of the work he was made overseer of. He says in reference to the

CONDITION OF MASONRY.

It is with profound satisfaction that I am able to report that peace and harmony prevail throughout this Grand Jurisdiction. With two or three exceptions, there has been scarcely a ripple of discord among the craft, or contention between the lodges during the year. Less than the usual complaints of the invasion of jurisdiction, and the reception of rejected candidates, have been made. All these have been settled amicably, or are in progress of settlement.

I have received through the Grand Masters of other Grand Jurisdictions, several complaints against lodges in this State for the invasion of their territorial jurisdiction. I have required the lodges complained of to render a satisfactory explanation or make suitable apology in all these cases. Great care should be exercised in all cases where the petitioner is not well known and his legal and masonic residence well established.

The work of the lodges has been more or less affected by the continued

financial depression. The accessions to our numbers are believed to be less than in any year in the last decade. But this affords no cause for alarm. The moral and financial strength of the Order was never better than now. But masonry, like every other department of life, social, moral or financial, must experience severe discipline for the public profligacy, extravagance, and demoralization of the recent past, illustrating the old maxim, that nations, organizations and individuals must reap as they sow.

He announces with regret the decease of two worthy P. G. Officers, viz: P. S. G. Warden Edmund B. Hinkley, and P. D. G. Master Amos Nourse, whose virtues are appropriately recorded by Bro. Joseph M. Hays, from the committee to whom that duty was assigned, and we learn from it that the deceased brethren were notable while living for civic as well as masonic virtues, and dying have left examples of truth and worth which all should emulate.

He is opposed to Relief Associations as masonic agencies, and speaks of them under the head of "*Insurance*," urging very sensible objections to their being used as adjuncts to LODGE work, viz:

As voluntary organizations, there may be no objections to Relief Associations among individual masons, but there is neither reason nor authority for the Grand Lodge or the subordinate lodges to patronize them, or recognize them as masonic; much less to devote their funds to the insurance of their members. My convictions are clear that such a disposition of lodge funds would lead to endless strife and discord. No lodge can insure all its members. Every member having equally contributed to the funds, all are alike entitled to its benefits, and no distinction could be made without creating dissatisfaction. No question creates so much irritation in the lodges and so strains the fraternal cord that binds its members together, as the disposition of their finances. Any attempt to carry out the policy indicated by this resolution would be a continual cause of irritation, if there was any authority for it—as there is not.

At present, these and other kindred associations are but just entering upon their experimental stage. The uncertain tenure and stability of all like organizations, in the present stress of the times, tends to throw a shadow of doubt over their success, managed the best they may be.

* * * * *

The benefits of Relief Associations and other kindred organizations, safely and economically conducted, are not questioned; but the great danger is, when the death-rates begin to increase and the assessments begin to multiply, as they will with the increasing years of the members, that the interest in the association will begin to wane, policies to lapse, members to drop out one after another, and a final collapse will follow. The recent history of Life Insurance Companies, conducted upon the same principle, affords an illustration of the dangers of the system. In view of possible failure, such associations should receive no legislative sanction, or recognition as masonic, from the Grand Lodge or its subordinates, much less devote their funds to insure their members therein.

When we substitute for the voluntary and silent charities of masonry, a system of benefits on a strictly commercial basis, it will have lost all

that traditional, mystic power which has ever distinguished it from all other human organizations as a fraternally charitable institution, wherein its chief glory lies.

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom this portion of address was referred, conclude a very able report (which fully indorses the views of the Grand Master, thus:

* * * * * * * *

We deprecate earnestly the tendency to introduce the pecuniary element into masonry. Every one of us, in his prayer for admission, solemnly declared that, in so doing, he was "unbiased by mercenary motives;" but how long will that be the case after mutual insurance shall have been introduced into the system? *Masonic* relief does not depend upon what the recipient has *paid*, or has *promised* to pay, but upon *his needs* and the *ability of the giver;* and when this principle of personal obligation to give relief when and where it is needed as voluntary charity, shall cease to distinguish masonry from other societies, one of the oldest and most important of the fundamental principles will be blotted out, and the masonry the fathers have handed down will cease to exist.

While, therefore, we fully admit the benefit of associations for mutual relief, we trust no attempt will be made to connect them with our lodges or the Grand Lodge.

Fraternally submitted,

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,
HENRY H. DICKEY,
WILLIAM P. PREBLE,
Committee.

He says of the (so-called) Grand Lodge of

ONTARIO.

Learning from official sources that a spurious Grand Lodge had been formed in the Province of Ontario, Canada, of which Francis Westlake claims to be Grand Master, I issued a cautionary circular to all the lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction, that no lodge or individual hailing under this so-called Grand Lodge could be recognized in this jurisdiction, and that the greatest caution should be exercised in extending masonic courtesies to any person from that province.

And thus discourses of the twin evils, non-affiliation and non-payment of Lodge

DUES.

There is a growing restiveness among the lodges on the subject of non-payment of dues and the sequent evil of non-affiliation. While serious objection is made to non-affiliation, as tending to alienate the brotherhood and weaken the bond of union among the brethren, a more serious complaint comes up against forever carrying delinquents on the rolls of the lodges, thus imposing the burdens of the many upon the few. The evil tendency of the system and the present practice is a source of great

anxiety to every thoughtful mason. To devise some method to preserve the membership of the lodges and equalize the burdens, will require all the wisdom of our masonic Solons in the near future. 'Tis a question that is pressing for solution, and will not down at our bidding. Let us meet it promptly and consider it wisely.

We think the trouble arises mainly from lack of masonic principle and knowledge. Most of the delinquents are what the church people call "backsliders." All who *will not pay* dues (if able), or, in other words, *help* to support the organization, should be expelled, and then with careful selection of new material in the future, and generous forbearance with and assistance to the few who would but *cannot* contribute, the end of tribulation in this direction would soon be reached.

The proceedings under review indicate harmony, intelligence and industry as characteristics of this Grand Lodge. Many subjects were discussed and acted upon, and among them the project of establishing a "home for aged and indigent Masons;" "postponed until a more favorable time," because of general business depression, &c.

Memorial honors were extended to R. W. John Dove of Virginia, and R. W. Geo. Frank Gouley of Missouri.

And an interesting report from Committee on Jurisprudence discussing the right and deciding against the right of Past Grand Officers to be represented by proxies.

The reports of District Grand Masters are as usual a marked and interesting feature of the proceedings.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Brings us again into pleasant association with Brother Josiah H. Drummond, the Chairman of the able Committee, who dispense light of peculiar brilliance in this department of Maine's Masonic deliverances. We are always eager to get at this report, and are never disappointed in our expectations of enjoying pleasant and profitable reading when we reach it. The present report is not a "whit" behind its predecessors in matter or style, and is a well considered, analytical review of the proceedings of 51 American Grand Lodges (several of which include reports for *two* years), superadded to which are interesting comments on "matters of general interest" and a deliverance on the (to us) "terra incognita" of "Cuba" and "Colon" Grand Lodge rights, which comes just in time to suit our purpose and aid our investigations on that subject.

Brother Drummond gives Alabama for 1876 pleasant and fraternal notice.

It speaks of Grand Master Pillans' address as "a concise statement" of

his official action and decision, and quotes his remarks "upon the causes of the falling off of the membership in that (this) State," as Brother D. expresses it.

He quotes in full Brother Sayre's preamble and resolutions on Negro Masonry (referred to a special committee in 1876 and acted upon in 1877, the Chairman, Brother S., reporting favorably, and Brothers Walthall and Woolf, the other members of the committee, reporting adversely to the adoption of the resolutions—resulting after a protracted discussion to an indefinite postponement of the whole subject), and says of them:

We think our good Brother Sayre cannot sustain or prove his propositions of fact: and if he cannot, his conclusion fails, of course. A somewhat extended examination fails to find the proof of his assertions, but decidedly the reverse. In the earliest records we have found, there are declarations as to the *universality* of masonry utterly at variance with his views. We shall look with much interest for the report of the committee (of which he is chairman).

The action of our Grand Lodge as indicated above in parenthesis, virtually decided against the resolutions, though it was a hard struggle to combat Brother Sayre's earnest and able advocacy of his views as embodied therein. Brother D. gives us encouragement by kind words to persevere in the effort to become a full fledged reporter. We regret a divergence of opinion on the matter of the right of visitors to demand the charter, and possibly the inconsiderate and sometimes offensive declaration of this right by visitors with whom the writer has been brought into contact may have warped his judgment in the matter. He reserves his opinion for the time being, however, and reproduces his original remarks on this topic with Brother Drummond's comments thereon. He says speaking of our report of 1876:

We are compelled to differ from him in one matter. He says:

"A brother of another lodge or jurisdiction desiring to visit, and giving no other assurance of *his right to do so* than that intimated in a request for an *examination*, has no right to demand of the lodge he proposes to visit the exhibit of its charter, as a condition precedent to the examination. He has elected to visit a lodge recognized publicly as a masonic institution, and is himself unknown. In such cases the burden of proof is on the applicant, and for such a visitor to demand the charter *without trial* is impudent or irregular. After trial, and *before* entering the lodge, we always show the charter if requested to do so. The visitor must prove his right to inspect the charter, and *then* his *request* (*not demand*) to that effect is complied with. We know of no other rule in Mobile, and the 'Brother from Mississippi' alluded to above must have blundered in making his demand *before* he had proved his *right* to 'sit with the individuals' alluded to."

A charter is a public document, and may be exhibited as well to a profane as to a mason. But the examination of a visitor involves our secret

work. There are many clandestine lodges in this country: there may be, indeed we know there *are*, such lodges in Mobile. Now, we submit that no one *has a right* to disclose the secrets of masonry to a strange committee, unless he has the proper evidence that they represent a *regular* lodge: and that evidence is the charter. It is not a matter of *etiquette*, but of *ordinary prudence*.

We had intended to quote his concluding remarks, but our space fails us.

Under the "head" of matters of general interest, Brother Drummond gives us an item on "Colored Masonry" which we copy below, and there we must stop in spite of our desire to appropriate more of his plentiful and inviting supplies, for space and time both bid us pause and curtail:

"COLORED MASONRY."—The unanimous voice of the Grand Lodges is, that the plan proposed by the Committee of the Grand Lodge of Ohio would be destructive of the doctrine of Grand Lodge Sovereignty and cannot be entertained; also, that, according to present information, the Bodies in question must be held to be irregular and clandestine.

We have nothing to add to our report last year, save that the records of African Lodge, after 1808, have been discovered, showing that those who undertook to speak for it in 1824 and 1827, were in error in what they then said.

We also made a careless error in relation to the time when the word "*freeborn*" was struck out of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England, and the word "*freeman*" substituted.

But neither of these affect our argument or the conclusions which we reached.

It has been said that Prince Hall, in granting a dispensation for a new lodge in 1797, being only a Master of a private lodge, followed a precedent established years before. But when Prince Hall did it, he and his lodge were under the immediate government of the Grand Lodge of England, whose Constitution provided in express terms that "if any set or number of masons shall take upon themselves to form a lodge *without the Grand Master's warrant*, the regular lodges are not to countenance them, nor own them as fair Brethren duly formed, nor approve of their acts or deeds." This is conclusive as to the illegality of the two lodges formed by Prince Hall.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Edward P. Burnham.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Ira Berry (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Work.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... 180
(with one U. D.)

Number	Initiated	710
"	Admitted	895
"	Reinstated	23
"	Dimitted	297
"	Died	218
"	Deprived of Membership	163
"	Suspended	3
"	Expelled	6
"	Of Enrolled Master Masons	19,472

MANITOBA.

The Second Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Manitoba, was holden at Winnipeg, on the 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th of June, 1877. Present, M. W. Brother W. N. Kennedy, Grand Master, and other Grand Lodge constituents, including Representatives from a quorum of Subordinate Lodges.

The Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM and proceeded in harmony, and with commendable industry and intelligence to transact the business of the session. We are pleased with the general tone and method of these proceedings and gather from their perusal a very favorable impression of the character and habits of our Brethren of Manitoba.

We reproduce a portion of Grand Master Kennedy's Annual Address, which will give our readers some indication of the principles actuating our Brethren in this new and we hope soon to be flourishing jurisdiction. The Grand Master after briefly stating the events of the year and reporting his official acts, thus proceeds to encourage and instruct his Lodge:

"I am glad to see that during the year you have taken occasion to exercise the principles of benevolence and charity for which you have been in the past characterized. Besides private contributions, and as Lodges, you have raised by subscription from among the members, a sum exceeding four hundred dollars, which has been handed over to the Winnipeg General Hospital. This liberal exhibition of Freemasonry was made at the suggestion of our Worthy Brother Symonds, who is always foremost in every good work, and to whom the credit in a great measure belongs. In this city, in consequence of the large influx of strangers, the kind word and the open hand are more often called into requisition than in most places, and I am glad to say, the response has always followed the call.

And now, brethren, by way of conclusion, let us consider for a moment the position of Masonry in this Province. What can we do to elevate its tone? What can we do to bring honor on the cause we love so well? Barely two years have passed since the Grand Lodge was formed. I am glad to see that our action in so doing, and the manner of our formation, have been approved by the Grand Lodges of the world so far as heard from, including the Grand Lodge from which we sprang. Our numbers have

been very much increased by initiations from amongst ourselves as well as by affiliation of brethren from abroad, who have been and still are coming in large numbers amongst us, so that since our organization we have more than doubled in numbers. Peace and harmony prevail, and as a rule the brethren are anxious to improve themselves in a knowledge of the work. The attendance at the Lodges, I believe, has generally been good. But is this all that is required? We must remember that numbers is not always strength—that, as I have already said, a knowledge of the work is not always a test of true Masonry.

I would strongly impress upon you, brethren, the necessity of the greatest caution in the admission of candidates. Although I believe we have no more to reproach ourselves for in this matter than in other places, I fear that we are not altogether without fault. Be careful to guard the ballot box.

And then, has our own conduct as Masons been above reproach? Have we lived up to the standard we admit we should aim at? It is not enough that a Mason should be as good as other men; he ought to be better. With the teaching we receive night after night in our Lodges, and the high examples before us, as well as in the study of those liberal arts and sciences which as Masons we ought to cultivate, we ought certainly to be better.

As our Grand Lodge grows, let us grow in the true spirit of Masonry. On the foundation which has been so well laid, let us raise a superstructure perfect in all its parts and honorable to the builders.

Into the consideration of the business which will be brought before us at this meeting let us enter with hearts inspired with our obligations, and minds illumined from above, setting aside all personal ambitions, and everything that would in the slightest degree militate against the harmony of our meeting, and the best interests of the Craft."

The question as to the propriety of enforcing the uniformity of work was the only one which seemed to elicit any decided contrariety of opinion in the Grand Lodge, and that was finally settled with proper regard to the dignity of the Grand, without detriment to the rights of the Subordinate Lodge. The Grand Lecturer thus concludes his report on the character of the work done under his inspection, viz:

* * * * * * * * *

None, except the hypercritical, can say, that the work performed is any other than true, square, and well apportioned.

The most skilled workman in each case having been selected for that special work, in which he had previously exhibited his excellence.

But one fault exists, which time and assiduity alone can remedy. The work lacks finish and refinement. It may be this arises from the ambition and over-zeal of the brethren in undertaking too much work. Frequently so much has been crowded into one meeting, that the workmen were exhausted and the materials wanting well defined impression.

Your Grand Lecturer would most earnestly recommend that less work should be undertaken on each Lodge night, and that a greater number of meetings may be held to enable the Masterbuilders and Craftsmen to perfectly finish the work, so that the edifice when completed, may not only be substantial, but have the additional charm of beauty.

The materials during the past year have been carefully scrutinized, and it is a subject of congratulation, that none that have been accepted have proved so far unworthy.

With a firm confidence in the continued progress of Freemasonry in this Province, and of its steady perseverance in doing good,

I remain in F. H. & C.,

Yours fraternally,

A. J. SYMONDS,

Grand Lecturer.

And from it we gather that there is not "much the matter" with the work after all.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Geo. F. Newcomb.....Grand Master.

R. W. Bro. John H. Bell, (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Lodges (one being U. D.)		6
	Work.	
Number	Initiated	28
"	Passed	30
"	Raised	35
"	Affiliated	22
"	Restored	1
"	Dimitted	29
"	Suspended	5
"	Died	5
"	Enrolled Master Masons.	316

MARYLAND.

We have the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maryland at its Grand Annual Communication, held in the city of Baltimore on the 21st and 22d of November, 1876, from which we learn

That the Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form by M. W. Grand Master John H. B. Latrobe, assisted by his associate Grand Officers in their respective stations "and a due representation of Lodges."

The Grand Master's address is a short business message, saying possibly all that was needed; but certainly not all that we desired to hear from him in reference to Masonry in this old (we are still uncertain as to the

age of Maryland) and interesting Masonic jurisdiction. So we must e'en wait patiently for the information we seek, or rather expected to receive.

The Grand Master announces the death of P. S. G. Warden LAWRENCE SANGSTON, who he characterizes as having been "an active, zealous, and accomplished member of the Fraternity," and who "was buried with Masonic honors," 9th November, 1876. He had received a communication from Brother Ramon Illa, representative of the Grand Lodge "de la Isla de Cuba," and thus intelligently as well as judiciously speaks in reference to the recognition urged therein:

It would appear from the papers submitted to the Grand Master, that there was, and indeed now is, a Grand Lodge in the Island of Cuba styled the "Gran Logia de Colon," from which the nine Lodges here mentioned received originally their respective charters. This Grand Lodge, however, seems to have subordinated itself to the Supreme Council of the 33 deg. of the ancient Scottish rite, which has claimed and exercised rights over it, which the nine Lodges have deemed inconsistent with the Landmarks of ancient free and accepted Masonry, and have therefore sought to establish the independent body, the "Gran Logia de la Isla de Cuba, Habana," which through Brother Illa now seeks recognition by the Grand Lodge of Maryland.

Without expressing any opinion in regard to the merits of the application in question, the Grand Master is not prepared to advise action upon it at the present date—but suggests that it go over to the next Communication, when there will have been time to examine thoroughly into the facts in this connection.

It seems, that prior to the submission, as is alleged, of the "Gran Logia de Colon" to the Supreme Council, its standing as a Masonic Grand Body was not disputed; and fairness would appear to require a more deliberate consideration of the subject than could now be given to it on an ex parte statement.

It is very true that it is represented to the Grand Master that the new Grand Lodge has been recognized by the Grand Lodge of Delaware; and this precedent is unquestionably most weighty. Still it will lose nothing of its influence by the delay which the Grand Master regards as preferable in all the circumstances.

The Grand Master deems it proper to add in this connection that the testimonials of Brother Illa are all that could be required to give him the highest consideration.

His address closes with the following reference to taxes, which may well "give us pause" in our efforts to appropriate money in the erection of magnificent Temples, for if in addition to other considerations affecting the utility of such investments, the State is to be one of the largest beneficiaries from their income, we had better place the money where it will do more good charitably considered. He says in reference to State tax:

"The Grand Master takes this occasion to say that the new tax law of Maryland which assesses the Masonic Temple at upwards of $469,000,

threatens to impose a burden upon the Fraternity in Maryland of a very grievous character, and the enforcement of which may be attended with the most serious consequences to the Fraternity in the State, which has only now been able to relieve itself from the floating debt that the erection of the building created, and which at one time threatened to bring its property under the auctioneer's hammer. The subject has been referred to a committee by the Board of Managers, which with the aid of counsel of the Grand Lodge will investigate the subject. Inasmuch as the tax law will not go into operation for a year, there will be time, if there is no other recourse, to bring the matter before the next session of the Legislature."

The reports of R. W. Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer are able and interesting, and give us in connection with the report of "the committee on accounts of the Board of Managers" a full view of the finances of the Grand Lodge, which are improving though still depressed under the burdens imposed by "the New Masonic Temple."

The new Grand Lodges of

MANITOBA, DAKOTA, AND PRINCE EDWARD'S ISLAND

were severally recognized and fraternal relations established therewith, while the following resolution very properly rebuked the "Ontario" revolt, viz:

Resolved, That no Lodge or individual hailing under the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario can be recognized in this jurisdiction as having any Masonic standing, and all brethren under this jurisdiction are hereby directed to exercise the greatest caution before holding any Masonic intercourse with any person from the Province of Ontario, first ascertaining that the Lodge to which such person belongs is under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

The proceedings under consideration are mainly devoted to matters of local interest in which the financial problem was the absorbing topic, and we recur to it here for the purpose of quoting from the report of the committee on Grand Master's address, which, after stating fully the condition of affairs in that direction, gives us an intelligent view of Grand Master Latrobe's worth and labors not developed in his too modest address:

* * * * * * * * *

It is well known to the Order that our financial situation is critical, and that the maintainence of our credit involves, in a great measure, the good standing of Masonry before the people of this State. There is no sacrifice which either as individual members or as subordinate Lodges we should not cheerfully make, rather than that the Order in Maryland should be dishonored by bankruptcy. It would be useless to go over the causes of our embarrassments; the emergency is upon us, and it is enough

for the present to know that it is our plain duty to meet it with courage and resolution.

Your committee believe that the whole Grand Lodge is glad to acknowledge that the administration of our present M. W. Grand Master, beginning at a period of almost hopeless indebtedness, has been marked by a most encouraging and able management of our pecuniary interests, and that he and the Deputy Grand Master and other financial representatives of the Grand Lodge, are entitled to the gratitude of all Maryland Masons for the energy and zeal with which they have labored to extricate us from difficulties and to maintain the good credit of the Order.

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FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Under control of Brother Jno. S. Tyson is reported upon in a style quite creditable to the Grand Lodge he so worthily represents. It is all too brief to satisfy our wishes, but its brevity was enjoined by resolution of the Grand Lodge, for the sake of economy, and we must of necessity charge our disappointment in having the good reading Brother T. could have furnished to the MASONIC TEMPLE embarrassments of Maryland. He reviews with short but pleasant comment the proceedings of fifty Grand Lodges, among which the doings of Alabama in 1875 are fraternally and suitably noticed, and we thank him for a very pleasant and encouraging notice of our conge at reportorial criticism of that year,

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Jno. H. B. Latrobe, (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. J. H. Medairy (re-elected).....Grand Secretary

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges.....	93

Work.

Number	Initiated.....	200
"	Suspended.....	138
"	Expelled.....	3
"	Dimitted.....	103
"	Died.....	74
"	Reinstated.....	5
"	Of Enrolled Master Masons.....	5,657

MASSACHUSETTS.

The Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts held its annual communication for 1876 (its one hundred and forty-third anniversary assemblage) in the city of Boston, commencing Wednesday, the 13th day of December, A. L. 5876, and, as usual, after the routine business of the Grand Lodge was transacted, including the annual election of Grand officers, was closed and a special communication appointed for the 27th of December for the installation of Grand officers and the celebration of the Feast of St. John the Evangelist."

M. W. Grand Master Percival Lowell Everett, having opened the annual communication in Ample Form, read an able and comprehensive message, from which we gather the following items of interest. He says:

Notwithstanding the long-continued depression in business affairs, our Grand Lodge has continued to prosper, and our debt has been moderately reduced; while the District Deputy Grand Masters report to me that the Lodges throughout the State are, with a few exceptions, in a prosperous and thriving condition. I am firmly convinced that when the political excitement, which now exists, ceases, business will revive, and the country enjoy a season of prosperity which has not been seen for years.

He states the net indebtedness of the Grand Lodge at nearly $291,000, and the *decrease* of members ("affiliated") for the year at 657. He granted during the year dispensations for four new Lodges, revoking at the request of the original petitioners one dispensation issued the previous year.

Recommends the Trestle Board prepared by the Committee on Ritual and including the burial service (send us a specimen copy, Bro. G. Sec'ry) to all Lodges of the jurisdiction, and we are quite sure that this handbook would be very acceptable elsewhere, as many are not satisfied with the monitors now in use, and long for ceremonials less wordy and prolix.

He acknowledges, appropriately, a valuable acquisition in the Statue of "our revered Grand Master,

JOSEPH WARREN,"

and says—

This was executed by Henry Dexter, the sculptor, expressly for the Bunker Hill Monument Society, and a copy of it, in marble, stands at the base of Bunker Hill Monument. For this valuable and costly present we are indebted to our Worshipful Brother Otis E. Weld, a most valued friend to all who know him, and a firm supporter of Freemasonry.

He announces the death, on December 3d instant, of

R. W. WENDELL T. DAVIS,

of whom the Memorial Committee report an obituary notice, delineating a character worthy of all praise. We quote a portion of one of the notices given from the secular papers (the Boston Globe) in this report, to show the estimation in which this worthy brother was held by his fellow citizens—it is well to "mark the perfect man and behold the upright."

The funeral of Wendell Thornton Davis took place yesterday, at half-past 1 o'clock, and was the largest public or private funeral ever held in Western Massachusetts. Mr. Davis was probably the most popular man in not only Greenfield, but in Franklin county. Large delegations from the Knights Templars and other Masonic bodies of Franklin and adjoining counties were present, and special trains were run over the several railroads terminating in this town. During the funeral services all the stores of the town were closed and business was entirely suspended. The greatest tribute to the worth and estimation in which the deceased was held in this town was manifested by the large gathering of the poor and laboring classes, who turned out *en masse* to pay their respects to one who had always been their friend.

In reference to "Colored Lodges," Grand Master Everett expresses his gratification that this element of strife is for the time being removed, and says—

The Grand Lodge of Ohio, at its last annual meeting, acted on the subject I refer to in a way that does not disturb the harmony existing among the Grand Lodges of this Union, or threaten the disruption of their acknowledged jurisdiction.

We note that all Masonic offenses are tried by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts by the Commissioners of Trials, who have charge of and try all cases and report their decisions to the Grand Lodge, thus dispensing altogether with Lodge trials (as we infer).

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

The annual communication was followed, on the 27th of December, by the SPECIAL, heretofore alluded to, commemorative of the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist, and the proceedings before us, in recording the eloquent addresses delivered by the wise and good of that assemblage in response to complimentary toasts, have enabled us to participate in the *feast* so sumptuously that we scarce miss the viands which adorned the banquet and rather engaged the attention than inspired the thoughts of the guests.

We reproduce a portion of one of these responses, that of R. W. P. G. M. Gardner, because while giving a graphic history of the "FEAST" custom in Massachusetts, it also pours "hot shot" into the Ohio "locker" of negro masonry's defence and equipment—read it and be pursuaded that

"Prince Hall Lodge" was both clandestine and anti-American in its origin. He says—

This festival has continued to be celebrated from 1733 down to the Anti-Masonic times, excepting just one hundred years ago, in 1775 and 1776, when, by reason of the tumultuous occasions resulting from the war, the feast was not celebrated; but ever after it was celebrated, and although a hundred years ago at this time no record was kept of the fact that the Brethren met, they undoubtedly did meet in some form or other; and although they had no organization at that time, and were not called together to celebrate the feast as on other occasions, yet I doubt not that in some tavern, or in some private house, they did meet, and, after the manner of Masons, did celebrate the feast.

Brethren, you have voted, to-day, that on the 8th of March next you will celebrate, in such a manner as your Grand Master will direct, the Centennial of the Independence of this Grand Lodge. On the 8th of March, a hundred years ago, the Brethren met and established themselves as an Independent Grand Lodge. They met on that occasion for the purpose of granting a charter to a new Lodge; and when they met they found that they had no authority; that the Colonial Congress had declared that these States were free and independent, and that by means of the Declaration of Independence of the Fourth of July they had severed themselves from all connection with both Scotland and England, with the Grand Lodges of which they were connected.

It became necessary at that time to form some Lodges, either in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, or in Maine, and the Brethren then voted that they were free and independent, in the same way that they in the civil government had voted, at Philadelphia, on the Fourth of July, 1776, that they were free and independent. They then began to act as an independent and sovereign Grand Lodge, and from the 8th of March, 1777, down to this present time, there has not been a day, or an hour, or a minute, in the old Commonwealth of Massachusetts, but that she has had an independent sovereign Grand Lodge.

Now, Brethren, I deem it of considerable importance that we celebrate this event, because, by reason of certain things which have occurred in Ohio and in Germany, it becomes somewhat necessary that we should follow up this declaration, and that we should establish it as a precedent, and impress upon this century, and upon this year, the early date of the independence of our Grand Lodge; because during the last few years there has been an attempt made in certain quarters to show that here, in the city of Boston, a Lodge known by the name of African (founded more than ten years after the independence of the Grand Lodge) was established by a charter from the Grand Lodge of England, and has equal right and power with our Lodges here; whereas, if in 1777 our Grand Lodge became independent and sovereign, the power of the Grand Lodge of England to establish any lodge here--whether African, American, or Asiatic—was a nullity and not worth the parchment upon which the charter was written.

But we must leave the *feast*, and close our report of the proceedings of this interesting Grand Body.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Percival Lowell Everett, re-elected.....Grand Master.
R. W. Charles H. Titus.....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges (including two in Chili, S. A., and one in China).....219

Work.

Number Initiated.....1,307
" Passed.....1,233
" Raised.....1,360
" Rejected.....481
" Admitted.....1,662
" Reinstated.....123
" Dimitted and discharged.....839
" Deceased.....284
" Suspended.....306
" Expelled.....1
Whole number of enrolled Master Masons.....26,292

MICHIGAN.

We received a copy of the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Michigan at its Annual Communication for 1877, and had made our notations thereon for review; but the book has disappeared, and at this writing very much to our regret and mortification is not to be found. It will doubtless "turn up" in the hands of some inquisitive friend who, intent upon gratifying reading proclivities, has failed to respect our right to control the property he has borrowedly appropriated, and we must for the time being forego our intended review of its contents. In the meantime will our Brother Grand Secretary of Michigan please forward a duplicate copy and thus enable us certainly to include its review in our next report?

MINNESOTA.

The (24th) Twenty-Fourth Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota, convened at St. Paul, on Tuesday the 9th of January, 1877, and was opened in Ample Form by M. W. G. M. J. C. Braden.

We note a full attendance of Grand and Past Grand Officers and Representatives of one hundred and one constituent Lodges.

We had not proceeded far in the perusal of these minutes before our attention was attracted with great interest to the discussion of *the* one absorbing question of general Masonic importance, that of "Colored (or Negro, as we still prefer to call it) Masonry," and we allude to it here a little in advance of its legitimate order because it will not "stay its turn," and claims attention "right now." We thank our Brethren of Minnesota for as full (perhaps the fullest) and exhaustive a written discussion of this question as we have met with in our search for light in this *darkness*. We certainly have read no abler or more interesting arguments on the subject than are presented in the committee reports made severally of Bros. A. T. C. Pierson and Aaron Goodrich against recognition of the colored applicants and the defense of those Bodies made by Bro. Charles Griswold, delivered orally, and afterwards reduced to writing and made a part of the record in this important discussion. We would gladly reproduce these arguments and illustrations, but our space will not permit a full reprint of them, and no more extracts would do justice to the writers.

Attention was called to this subject by Grand Master Braden in his annual address, who very pointedly indicated his opinions and wishes in the matter as follows:

I know but one way in which a profane can be made a Mason; or a Mason, not a member, can be admitted to membership in a Lodge, and that is by individual petition, and unanimous ballot. Had it been shown that colored men ever applied to Lodges in this jurisdiction, and been rejected on account of color, there might have been a ground of complaint, and a decent pretext for the agitation of this question.

This question has been before you for a year, it must be met at this session. I believe you are prepared to meet it, and to settle it in accordance with the ancient laws and usuages of Masonry, and not otherwise.

And on the second day of the Communication the subject was discussed as above stated, and the resolutions offered by Brother Pierson:

1st. Declining recognition of "Prince Hall Grand Lodge;"

2d. Asserting its exclusive jurisdiction over all Charters in Minnesota;

3d. Asserting, "that color is neither a bar to or a recommendation for the Masonic rites, and that the qualifications required of candidates were met by being a man free-born, of lawful age, of good report, and well recommended;"

were passed by a vote of 321 ayes to 7 nays. Few Bodies have discussed the subject more elaborately and more intelligently, and the conclusion reached by our Minnesota Brethren as indicated by the vote was almost unanimous.

We like the tone and style of G. M. Braden's address, though we do

not concur in some of his opinions and decisions. He is positive in his utterances, yet not dictatorial, and we judge him to be an able and zealous custodian of the work. He is clear-headed on the question of finance, and none too positive, we think, in denouncing past neglects in that direction when he says in reference thereto:

In 1869 I first took my seat in this Grand Body as the representative of a subordinate Lodge. The Committee on the Accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary reported that year the assets of the Grand Lodge to be in cash and U. S. bonds $5,787.90. The premium on the bonds would have made the sum over $6,000. This sum represented the savings of sixteen years. The gross receipts during this period, beginning with $170.50 at the session of 1854, had been less than $20,000. Over 30 per cent. had been saved. From 1869 to 1876 the gross receipts were $28,000. Had as large a percentage been saved as in the previous years and safely invested, the accumulation of principle and interest would have given us to-day a Grand Lodge Fund of at least $20,000; but instead of this the Grand Treasurer at the beginning of last session could report on hand only $37.72. Into the maelstrom of Grand Lodge expenditures all the receipts, and all the savings have gone. What has the Grand Lodge to show for this expenditure of money? Has it a hall in which it can meet? No. Has it an Orphan Asylum? No. Has it a Home for Aged and Indigent Masons, and their Widows? No. Has it a Charity Fund? No. Has it a fund for any object? No.

You may be curious to know how this money has been spent. In round numbers $10,000 has been paid as per diem and mileage, $2,500 paid to the old district deputies, and Grand Visitor and Lecturer, $5,000 in the Grand Secretary's office, $1,800 to Grand Masters, $1,500 in rent, $8,000 in printing and so on. In charity out of Grand Lodge Funds, $400. A morsel of bread, and a deal of sack.

Who is responsible for this? The Grand Lodge of Minnesota.

It is not pleasant to refer to this brethren, it is not complimentary to us; but there are times when it does good to look over the past, to have our errors pass in review, that we may amend our ways in the future. The revenues of this Grand Lodge are amply sufficient to meet all its expenditures, and leave a surplus year by year.

We let him speak by this quotation to a larger audience than he intended addressing, well knowing that the faults he reprobates are diffused through other jurisdictions to the serious detriment of the Craft.

The proceedings, extending through three days, are generally interesting and impress us favorably with the intelligence and industry of the members composing this Grand Lodge and jurisdiction. We hope that we shall not again, as was the case last year, miss this report from our table.

In our hasty review of Minnesota we have now approached another interesting feature of the proceedings, and here the

claims attention and remark. Brother A. T. C. Pierson, Grand Secretary and Chairman of this Committee, presents a well digested and excellently written report on this topic, reviewing with commendable taste and judgment the proceedings of forty-nine Grand Lodges. He is evidently not unwilling to place a lance in rest against any knight who seeks the combat of reportorial controversy, but is yet and even more disposed to honor those whose peaceful tastes incline them to wit and repartee.

Our Brother of Minnesota has devoted to the proceedings of Alabama for 1875, received in this report more space than reporters usually assign to our minutes, and we thank him for a very full and fair report of our doings. He quotes freely from Grand Master Wilson's address, and while objecting, rather captiously, we think, to some of his decisions, gives him the benefit of a fair statement of the views objected to. We quote below two of Brother Pierson's objections to G. M. Wilson's rulings:

A candidate rejected in a Lodge in one jurisdiction, and subsequently made a Mason in another jurisdiction without the consent of the Lodge wherein rejected, is an illegally made Mason.

Which may do in Alabama, but would not in Minnesota. We do not ask the question, indeed, we consider it rather impertinent to ask a petitioner whether he has ever been rejected!

We require a residence of one year in the jurisdiction of the Lodge before an application can be made.

We adhere to the old questions asked of a candidate, and have not added to, or abreviated them.

We find it very useful, indeed a great safeguard, to ask the question suggested in Brother Wilson's ruling and Minnesota is wrong, we think, to neglect such a precaution against plausible but unworthy applicants. A previous rejection elsewhere, and where possibly *less known*, is too important an era in the applicant's history to be neglected by his scrutinizers and to ask the question referred to is a very simple, legitimate, and effective way of getting at the facts, "to our thinking."

Another objection is thus stated:

The action of the Grand Lodge in reversing a sentence of a subordinate Lodge, suspending or expelling a brother, and restoring him to the rights and privileges of Masonry, does not restore him to membership in the Lodge. His status is that of an unaffiliated Mason, and to become a member of the Lodge he must make application like any other unaffiliated Mason.

Strange, that even Grand Masters will put decisions on paper without stopping to think.

A Grand Lodge *reverses* a sentence pronounced by a subordinate, in other words says, the action was all wrong—no crime was committed—and yet he is deprived of membership! For what?

The Grand Lodge says to an accused party, "you are not guilty," but you must be punished all the same!!

We heard of a judge who remarked to a prisoner after his acquittal by a jury, "you can go, but don't do so any more."

Our Grand Lodge holds that its reversal of a sentence of expulsion does not involve a reprimand of the Lodge expelling, or necessitate an unending controversy in requiring a *reluctant* subordinate to reinstate a member believed by it to have *deserved* expulsion. We find our practice as enunciated by G. M. Wilson, and long adhered to, works in the direction of harmony and for the good of Masonry. It has been tried here and not found wanting.

Brother Pierson gives proper credit to the report of our Committee on "Suspensions, Expulsions and Appeals," for which we are obliged, and we especially acknowledge his kind reception of our maiden report on Correspondence, of which he says:

A Report on Foreign Correspondence covering one hundred and thirty-four pages, and reviewing the proceedings of forty-three Grand Lodges, was presented by Brother Oliver S. Beers—we like his report and are inclined to claim relationship. If he comes from the old "Jersey" stock, we are—cousins.

The report is an excellent one—we present a part of his comments on the "colored" question, found under the head of Ohio.

We quote it not so much for its compliment as to get at and comment upon *that* question suggested of "stock" and relationship, the latter we like because we *like* Brother Pierson and imagine we feel toward him a notion of consanguinity, as if some undiscovered pulse of kindred blood throbbed responsive to his *vein* of remark. We do not know as to the "JERSEY" *stock*, so gentle and useful in the female development, while its male representatives (unlike Brother Pierson, we are quite sure) are characterized at maturity of physical structure, by fierceness and destructiveness. It is certainly not perpetrating a BULL to express a preference for the *female* "Jersey," nor is it Cow-ardly to say so. The writer claims to be of an *improved* "stock," derived from a cross of NEW ENGLAND (CONNECTICUT) on GEORGIA (first descent from VIRGINIA) *i. e.* "PURITAN" on "CAVALIER," a very excellent cross, indeed, and likely by *judicious encouragement* to produce splendid results in the near future; but alas, and hopelessly! for this specimen, he was too much *pent* up in *youth* and forced to become a beast of burden when *rich pastures* and gentle treatment were needed for his symmetrical development. If we ever meet Bro. P., we will resume the subject, if agreeable to him—till then, adieu.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. J. C. Braden (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. A. T. C. Pierson (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges	118

Work.

Number Initiated	509
" Passed	494
" Raised	497
" Affiliated	193
" Restored	15
" Dimitted	263
" Stricken from Roll and Suspended	201
" Died	22
" Of Enrolled Master Masons	6,569

MISSISSIPPI.

The (59th) fifty-ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi convened at VICKSBURG, on Wednesday, the 7th day of February, 1877, and was a large, interesting and intelligent assemblage of the Craft—presided over by M. W. G. M. John Y. Murry, assisted by his associate Grand officers and the representatives of subordinate Lodges, with many Worthy Past Grand Officers, constituting a quorum of the Grand Lodge, which was opened in Ample Form, and after prayer by the Rev'd Grand Chaplain Brother Irvin Miller, proceeded to business.

The minutes are very voluminous and we may not attempt a fair review of them within the limited space now left us.

The address of the Grand Master is well written and though long is not too much so for its purpose, as it reviews the past, explaining his Executive acts, and at the same time suggests legislation needed to meet coming necessities or to counteract existing evils. His message proves him thoughtful and prudent—true and faithful to his trust.

He says, after grateful thanks for the blessings of Providence, including health, plenty and peace :

Nothwithstanding all this, I fear that we, as Masons, have to lament the little good we have done since we last met. It is a sad truth that the

people generally, now-a-days, are given too much to materialism; the matter of loss or gain, in a pecuniary point of view, has so completely encompassed us about, that the greater interests and truths of a Moral Nature are, to some extent, at least, lost sight of and suffer thereby. Therefore, my brethren, let us dedicate ourselves anew to the important business of practicing and inculcating the great truths that tend to the elevation of man's moral nature.

I fear we have not as much cause to congratulate ourselves in regard to the condition of Freemasonry in this jurisdiction, as for the favorable state of things outside of the Institution, to which allusion is made above.

Brethren, we are here to consult with each other, and to legislate for the general welfare of our ancient and noble Institution. Let each one of us, therefore, be prompted to action by a spirit of moderation and of brotherly love, so that this meeting may be long remembered, both on account of its social features and the wholesome laws which may be enacted. Yes, there is a work for all of us to do here, and let each one contribute his effort to the end that lasting good may be accomplished.

Very excellent advice, and, as we judge from the minutes, well heeded, for these Brethren, in the three days of their labors, were industrious, zealous and faithful to the work assigned them—accomplishing much and doing the work skilfully withal.

The Grand Master's decisions, some seventeen in all, are very satisfactory to us, and we think true to Masonic law and usage. We quote one of them, which we think enforces admirably a long neglected duty in the way of discipline, viz:

It is the duty of a Lodge to give a brother a Masonic burial who died from the excessive use of intoxicating liquors, *provided* the brother was a *member* of the Lodge in good standing at the time of his death, and had a short time prior to his decease, or his family immediately after that event, requested a masonic burial.

When a Lodge fails to enforce our regulations against its members for the crime of drunkenness while living, I think it too late to begin it when they are dead. If the brother was not entitled to masonic burial, he ought not to have been in good standing in the Lodge.

The report of the R. W. Grand Secretary, Brother J. L. Power, is a long and able one, supplementing the Grand Master's very comprehensive message by many excellent suggestions as to matters requiring legislation. His recommendation to loan the charity fund to local banks, for the sake of higher rates of interest, instead of investment in United States bonds, we can not approve, as we esteem *perfect* security in the investment of such trust funds infinitely above any other consideration. What shall it profit you, my Brother, if you get a high rate of interest for a time and then lose the *fund?* The *soul* should not be endangered, we are taught by high authority, for the sake of temporary gains.

Another and very interesting feature of these proceedings, is the able and elaborate report of the Committee on the

"WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' HOME AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,"

appointed at the last annual communication to digest and mature a plan for the organization of such an institution. This committee, of whom Brother Frederick Speed was chairman, assisted by Brothers H. W. Walter, A. P. Barry, Wm. S. Patton and Thomas Reed, are men of great personal worth as well as masonic renown in that jurisdiction, prepared and submitted a very excellent plan for the organization required (and which we would gladly reproduce here if our space would permit). The Grand Lodge unanimously concurred in the report, ordering a large edition to be printed for distribution among subordinate Lodges, to whom, under the constitution, the measure was referred for final adoption.

This committee, as a part of their report, present the answers received from many Grand Lodges in response to a circular addressed by them to all corresponding Grand Bodies, embodying the following inquiries:

1. What masonic charity is at present maintained in the jurisdiction in which you reside?
2. What are its objects?
3. What are the details of its organization and government?
4. How are the means of support obtained?
5. What, if any, modification of the plan upon which it is conducted, either as to its object, organization, government, means of support or in any other respect you can suggest, which will enable us to devise a better system?
6. If there are any other masonic charitable institutions with which you are familiar, please inform us specifically regarding them, or if you can not do this, please do us the kindness to place this letter in the hands of some brother who can do so.
7. If any masonic charitable institution with whose workings you are familiar, has failed, please state what in your opinion caused such failure?

The committee will thankfully receive *any* suggestions bearing upon the important matter which you may be pleased to make, or cause to be made to them, and also any documents relating to the subject which it may be convenient for you to send to them.

The answers to these queries from a few Grand Lodges are gratifying evidences of progress in organizing such institutions, but we regret to say that such responses were "like angel's visits, few and far between," or, as we say in trade circles, the result was a "beggarly account of empty boxes"—to the discredit of Masonic enterprise and liberality, if not of its integrity. Brethren of Mississippi, be not discouraged, but let this dearth of example rather encourage you to step to the front and be foremost in

cultivating this wilderness of unoccupied territory, which is destined, ere long, to bloom and blossom as the rose. The Pioneers of this new departure shall be thrice blessed. We can not resist the impulse of copying and endorsing the eloquent conclusion of this report, viz -

We can not conceal from ourselves or from you, brethren, the magnitude of this undertaking. Before the endowment fund is fully raised, many of us will have taken the last sublime degree and solved the great mystery of death; but the legacy will remain for those who shall come after us, and, may-hap, our children will find shelter beneath the roof of the house whose foundations we are now laying. It is seldom that we reap the fruit of our labors in this world, but there are things which can survive our funerals. Our works, our influences, and the effects of our good deeds, which are more to the world that survives than we ourselves are, do not pass away; these continue and live. Even the Temple of Solomon, the great type and symbol of Masonry, would not have existed at all but for the provision made by David, who was not destined to even behold the foundations thereof, much less to see the glory of the Lord fill the house. It was left for his son, Solomon, to carry forward to completion the great conception of his father; but is not David's name as inseparably connected with the first temple as that of our Ancient Grand Master? Will not our satisfaction and pleasure be a sufficient reward, as from year to year, we see the fund accumulate, and know that we are laying up a store against the day of adversity for our children and our childrens' children? Be assured that the angels will not fail to write down to our credit in the great Book of Life, the vote by which this work shall be inaugurated. It is possible that the work will be retarded, and, at times, the hearts of those who shall have charge of it will be heavy with disappointment and sorrow. It may even be that we will be reproached for placing so heavy a burden upon their shoulders, for it must not be imagined that this great undertaking can be carried forward to fruition without its seasons of adversity. And it may even happen that before others shall take our places, we will weary with the work and faint by the wayside, for it must be remembered that the path has already been trodden by brethren who have turned their faces backward in the day of battle. More enterprises of this character have failed, miserably failed, than have succeeded. So far as we know, there are but two Masonic Homes in successful operation in all this broad land of ours, with its more than half million of masons. We may, from some unseen defect, fail, as others have done before us. We know of no reason why we may not succeed, for other societies with less pretensions and less ability than our own, have done so. Every where throughout Christendom, stand noble monuments of disinterested zeal and true philanthropy which owe their origin to comparatively small bands of charitably disposed persons, associated with the sole object of doing good to their fellow-men. The Church of Rome, with its hundreds of Orphanages, built with the offerings of a people who themselves, in many instances, are objects of charity, demonstrates what a little self-sacrifice upon the part of great numbers can accomplish. Every religious denomination has successfully preceded us in the same field of labor, until the number of charitable institutions, maintained by voluntary offerings, are numbered by thousands. For years, a few kind-hearted and charitably disposed ladies have, almost

single-handed and alone, carried on a noble work at the Protestant Orphan Asylum in Natchez. If the twelve thousand Masons in Mississippi do not succeeed in this undertaking, it will demonstrate what we would be very loth to admit—that there is some radical defect in the Masonic Institution itself, suggestive of tinkling symbols and sounding brass. Surely it can not be true, that with all its high-sounding pretensions, the charitable features of masonry are confined to an occasional doling out of a few paltry dollars, to relieve the immediate necessities of casual applicants. If such is the fact, the sooner it is demonstrated the better. It will have lived its day, outlived its usefulness and must give place, at no distant day, to something capable of greater things than the conferring of degrees, whose teachings are mere theories to be preached—not practiced.

Passing much that is interesting and worthy of comment in these proceedings, we come to the

"REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE,"

presented by Brother John T. Buck for the Committee, who thus acquaints us with the difficulties of his position :

It is with no small degree of embarrassment that I submit the following report in behalf of the committee. This work was entrusted to me by my esteemed Brother, P.·.G.·.M.·.Gathright, who insisted that I should perform it *for him*, as he was about to remove from the State.

That it is faulty, is but natural ; especially since it is the result of the labors of one who is entirely inexperienced and who can claim no qualification for the work, except an earnest desire to promote the good of masonry. Waiving excuses, I proceed.

We know how that is ourself, and if it is any encouragement to Brother Buck, will volunteer to say that his intelligent review of some fifty volumes of Grand Lodge proceedings, is a very strong demonstration of his reportorial capabilities. Brother Buck reviews the proceedings of Alabama for 1875 with friendly consideration. He is, we fear, a little "crooked" on the religious question, and expresses himself quite indiscreetly on Brother Craven's (of Indiana) apostrophe to Masonry, which was designed to hurl back upon its enemies the charge of irreligion, rather than to advance its claims as *pre-eminently* a religious institution ; but hear Brother Buck, who says—after quoting a *part only* of Brother Craven's address (and we repeat the quotation, for though it does not do full justice to the author, yet it speaks the *truth* forcibly, and will bear repetition)—

Under the head of Indiana, copious quotations are made from an oration delivered by Brother John Craven. In order that we may have an opportunity of expressing ourselves, we make the following quotations therefrom :

"It is charged that masonry is positively an irreligious institution.

So-called religions are many. Masonry is one. Some religions have many Gods. Masons believe in one God, whom they reverence and love. Religion, so-called, has caused tears to flow, has made widows and orphans, imprisoned disbelievers, tortured them at the rack and burned them at the stake, consumed cities, desolated lands and blotted out nations. Masonry has no armies, no arsenals, no magazines, or implements of war or death, no flag of desolation, no watchword of hate. Masonry is the world's great peace-maker. If all men were Masons, nations would learn war no more. Masonry never consumed a city, never desolated a field or hearth-stone. It employs no racks, chains or faggots; never burned a disbeliever at the stake, never made a widow or an orphan, never shed a drop of blood, never caused a heart to break or a single tear to flow. Its hosts are those of peace; its arms, good deeds. Its banner is love, and its watchword peace and good will on earth. It has existed for ages, come down through wars and revolutions, passed through ages of darkness, living on after nations had passed away, growing stronger with each succeeding age. Time has but strengthened the foundation of our temple, and added new glories to its cope-stone. Every rising sun but lends a brighter halo to its spires. It is not easy to comprehend that it will not always exist. It exists now wherever civilization is found, and even barbarous people recognize its fraternal band, and it will continue, and the golden chain will lengthen until a band of brothers will clasp hands around the world."

We must insist that such utterances as these, construed (as they will be) into an exalting of Masonry at the expense of Religion, is putting weapons into the hands of our opponents. There is no conflict between masonry and true religion. Some over-zealous brethren make masonry their religion, and therein falsify its teachings; and we have known some good brethren who were forced to the conclusion that just such things as these almost demanded their withdrawal from masonry. When masonry can succeed in renewing the moral nature of man, it will deserve to be placed alongside of religion; when it succeeds in bringing man as an humble pupil to the foot of the God of religion, it will have accomplished a grander and more glorious mission than was ever conceived for it. We honor masonry, but it is human in all respects, in its origin and its mission; with time, it will cease to exist; but religion is Divine—it begins with God, and its mission is worthy of its Almighty Author. As to the remarks upon faggots, stakes, etc., we have to say, true religion never erected these; and all such stuff is unworthy of a mason.

You mistake Brother Craven, and we are satisfied a more careful perusal of his address will modify, if not remove your objections, Bro. Buck. He uses the term *religion* in its broad, cosmopolitan, and classic sense, while you apparently apply it alone to christianity as practiced in sub-reformation times. If the sun of midday brightness gives incomparable light, we may not, therefore, neglect the lesser lights ordained by God to rule the night. Masonry may claim to be, *and is*, a religion in *binding* together those who can and do "acknowledge God as an object of worship, love and obedience," and this is all that the term implies, nor does such union or association suggest, in the least, a neglect of that DISPENSATION

the CHRISTIAN, which our Brother of Mississippi evidently thinks is the only true faith and alone worthy to be designated as a RELIGION; but, unfortunately, the lexicons (and world of letters as well) do not so restrict the term. Masonry may be "*human in all respects*," but before ABRAHAM was, IT had proclaimed its gospel of love and unity to man, and taught allegiance to God, commissioning its Priests, from whom even Melchisedek took orders, and preparing the way for every dispensation of light and truth which has dawned upon our darkness and gladdened our spiritual yearnings all "adown the tide of time." If it be not of God, it exists by Divine permission, and who can say what agency it shall hereafter exert in combating error and sustaining those who are yet to engage in the struggle for TRUTH against principalities and powers. If its origin was human "there is a DIVINITY that shapes its *ends*," nor are *they* roughly hewed at our will and pleasure. "God disposes."

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Brother John Y. Murry re-elected.....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother J. L. Power " .....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... 315

Work.

Number Initiated..... 419
" Passed..... 386
" Raised..... 378
" Suspended..... 257
" Expelled..... 15
" Dimitted..... 509
" Died..... 206
" Affiliated..... 273
" Reinstated..... 181
" of enrolled Master Masons (partly estimated).....11,170

MISSOURI

Absent from our table last year is again a welcome visitant in a pamphlet containing the official proceedings of the FIFTY-SIXTH Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Missouri, convened

at St. Louis, commencing October 10th, A. D., 1876. Present, M. W. Grand Master James E. Cadle, who, assisted by Representatives of 183 Subordinate Lodges, opened the Grand Lodge in AMPLE FORM.

We note with regret the absence of R. W. Grand Secretary Geo. Frank Gouley, who was detained from that assemblage, as we learn from the minutes, very much to his own regret and that of the Grand Lodge, by a serious illness. But, alas, this then temporary absence, the body being sick, was soon to be made permanent by the death summons, which reached him speedily thereafter and called from earth to the "evergreen shore," the noble spirit of a true as well as wise and accomplished Freemason. We may not now recall the horrors of the conflagration which destroyed his body, but could not conquer the soul so stayed on immortality; nor is this the proper time or the opportunity suited to the expression of the sentiments of respect and eulogy which stir our thoughts to speak in praise of Brother Gouley as a man, a citizen, and a Mason. At some other and more appropriate time, when by official announcement his death shall claim our reportorial attention, we will endeavor to record "in memoriam" his Masonic character, worth and deeds.

The proceedings before us record the doings of this Grand Lodge through a busy session of three days, but as the work performed and the questions discussed have no special interest beyond that jurisdiction we shall confine our remarks, or rather extracts, to the M. W. Grand Master's address, which is a well arranged, thoughtful and comprehensive message.

He thus admonishes his Lodge:

Let us labor while in attendance at the Grand Lodge to become not only more efficient in the work and lectures, but more familiar with the great fundamental truths taught in Masonry. Encourage higher thoughts, fuller conceptions of the sublime teachings of our institutions. We are accomplishing a great work, not as rapidly as we should, but slowly, and, I trust, surely. Wherever affliction and distress are found, there, too, should be the votaries of Masonry, with the hand of mercy outstretched, ready to bind up the broken-hearted, soothe the afflicted, and give aid to the needy. The noblest heroes of earth are those who bare their breasts to the storms of adversity, and, though wounded on every side, distressed and persecuted by those "who put a penny in the urn of poverty and take a shilling out," yet never falter in the performance of the duty of carrying consolation to the distressed and afflicted of earth. The noble work of our institution is felt and acknowledged, and this will attract attention more closely to each individual member. And as our institution will always be judged by the conduct of its members, it is important that our "daily walk and conversation" should be circumspect, and in conformity to our teachings. Then will all the malignant darts hurled at us fall harmless at our feet.

And says of his own official labors:

I need not remind the Grand Lodge of the great amount of labor required of the Grand Master. Energetic and prompt action are demanded at his hands, in order that the Craft may not go astray. I have given all the attention to the duties devolving upon me that my business would permit, and only regret that I have accomplished so little good.

I have occasionally been called upon to perform official acts that under other circumstances I would have gladly avoided, but duty and the responsibility of my office would not allow of hesitation where I believed the interest of the Craft required decisive action. In localities where I found discord, I have almost invariably found that it resulted from failure to enforce the law—a mistaken kindness, which always works injury.

"He that's merciful unto the bad, is cruel to the good."

The only safety is in a firm, dispassionate and inpartial enforcement of law. Let this be done and you cure a large number of evils now affecting some of our lodges.

Let the brethren exert every energy to keep our institution pure and its escutcheon untarnished, by eliminating every unworthy element and all defective material that might mar the beauty, destroy the harmony or deform the symmetry of our grand moral Masonic edifice, and we shall soon realize in its fullest sense "How good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

His decisions are unexceptionable, but involve no disputed questions. We quote one for the lesson of *decipline* it enjoins. Lodges must learn to purge themselves of inebriates by trial and expulsion:

A brother makes the following statement, in substance: Some seven or eight years ago our lodge conferred the degrees upon a man who was thought to be a sober, upright citizen. Soon after receiving the degrees he began to drink, and became a confirmed drunkard. Has removed from our jurisdiction; was drunk and helpless almost a year before he left. The brethren are divided in opinion about the proper course. Some claim that it is unreasonable for the lodge to render the brother assistance, as he has violated the laws of Masonry.

In answer to this case I cited decision 7, page 40, Book of Constitutions, which declares, "A member cannot be deprived of his Masonic privileges without a *fair trial.*" This never having taken place he is a member of the lodge, entitled to all the privileges and rights of Masonry.

When a lodge fails to enforce law, it must bear the responsibility. Other lodges may partially protect themselves against the vicious by interposing objections to their visiting, but the lodge where he holds his membership must alone be responsible. Every lodge is supposed to be the exponent of Masonic virtues in its community, and when it fails to meet the requirements it is the duty of the Grand Lodge to interpose and put a stop to the farcical promulgation of the cardinal virtues.

He says of the

CONDITION OF THE CRAFT.

During the year I have visited a number of lodges, and in most cases have found harmony and good feeling prevailing. And although I have

presided at a number of trials, I have found the respect and deference paid the Grand Master very marked, which shows a loyalty on the part of the Craft that is commendable. If the Grand Master could make his visits more extended, much good could be accomplished. The number of trials in our lodges would indicate a determination on the part of the members to free the lodges from all disturbing elements; it also shows that the lodges have been careless about the selection of their material. The work of purifying is one of the demands of the times. Let it not be abated until the membership is taught that to be a Mason means that uprightness, integrity, virtue and morality must characterize Masonic conduct.

The membership of our lodges are generally good men and true, but there are some, I am sorry to say, disturbers of the harmony of the lodges. There are also idlers in our vineyard, drones in the hive, and in some localities the brethren seem reluctant to use the necessary means for correcting this evil.

The general condition of the Craft is good. There are influences constantly being exerted, highly beneficial to the Craft. A spirit of enquiry and investigation into the higher beauties and more sublime thoughts suggested by our symbols, a more thorough discipline and vigorous enforcement of the laws of Masonry seem to be the desire and feeling of the brethren. and with proper encouragement, we may safely predict a grand and glorious future for Masonry in Missouri.

The valuable lessons of Masonic history, I am glad to believe are not lost on the Fraternity of the present day. Thoughts live always, and our noble ancestors in Masonry have sent down through the ages, thoughts that live and burn in the hearts of the toiling Craft of to-day.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Is represented by a short report from Brother Gouley (evidently curtailed in consequence of enfeebled health), in which, however, he reviews the proceedings of 40 Grand Lodges with his usual tact, terseness, and intelligence. This report is his eleventh (11th) annual deliverance as correspondent, and the realization that it is his last fills us with regret that so bright a light in this Masonic Zodiac is extinguished and gone. Let who will succeed him, he may well pray for Elisha's mantel to descend upon and prepare him for the mighty work.

Brother Gouley in this report reviews with considerate fraternal, and even complimentary attention the proceedings of Alabama for 1875, for which we are grateful.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Xenophon Ryland.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Geo. Frank Gouley (re-elected).....Grand Secretary

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges	490

Work.

Number Initiated	1,076
" Passed	950
" Raised	935
" Affiliated	812
" Reinstated	64
" Dimitted	884
" Died	301
" Suspended	344
" Expelled	81
" Of Enrolled Master Masons	23,739

MONTANA.

The neatly printed volume before us, with its excellently arranged minutes, contains the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of MONTANA at its TWELFTH Annual Communication, held at Helena, commencing Tuesday, October 3d and closing October 4th, 1876.

We welcome these proceedings very cordially and wonder why it is, that in our *two* year's tour of reportorial duty, MONTANA has not before appeared on our list of correspondents. We hope they will not again (as in the past) fail to reach us.

The Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM. Present, M. W. Grand Master Harry R. Comly and a quorum of its constituents, comprising Grand and Past Grand officers, and the Representatives of more than two-thirds of the subordinate Lodges.

We were attracted to the frontispiece of these proceedings by the *Comely* face of the M. W. Grand Master engraved thereon—suggestive in its intelligent and expressive features, of the beauties which we afterwards found impressed upon his thoughtful and really excellent annual address, from which we quote some eloquent sentiments, which claim our hearty approval. He says of Masonry in the abstract:

Let us then remember that we do not make Masonry, nor add one jot or tittle to its purity or glory, but that we are merely the creatures or instruments by which and through which its beauty may become apparent to the world.

We do not adorn Masonry, but Masonry decorates us; it therefore

should be deeply impressed upon our minds, that it is our most sacred duty to so demean ourselves towards each other and when mingling with our fellow men, that its reputation as a school of pure and liberal moral precepts be in no wise sullied by our derelictions.

When the world was buried in the obscurity of the dark ages—when Priestcraft and Kingcraft sought to and did enslave mankind by material force and spiritual anathema--when science and art were compelled to succumb to the mandates of ignorance or the insidious blighting power of superstition—when the fear of the sword and the terrors of hell were alike suspended by tyrannical power and sacerdotal cunning over a crouching and abject humanity—the sun of Masonry, unseen to the world at large, in secret threw its light upon a devoted few, who preserved the God-given principles of brotherly love, relief and truth, and transmitted to posterity the beautiful tenets of our Order.

While superstition and ignorance were sowing broadcast the seeds of discord among men, by upholding as the rules of action doctrines of fear and force, Masonry was transmitting to posterity its redeeming and regenerating principles, and as light from this source secretly and quietly beamed upon the world, man became free, his confidence in his fellow was restored, and his shackles were severed by the diamond of knowledge.

Our ancient brethren discovered that there was one grand fundamental principle in nature—they called it Truth.

They discovered that all the beautiful affinities of life were dependent for their existence and growth upon this great root of morality, and therefore made it the great object of Masonry to promulgate this law of Divinity. Aye, truth is the foundation stone of our art—it is the sword and buckler, and will prevail against all obstacles—it penetrates and investigates all things, whether spiritual or material—it not only examines the inmost soul of man, and proves his worth by its unmoving rule, but it also disintegrates the adamantine rock, and proves the immutable law of God existing in matters.

Morally, we are enlightened when we comprehend a truth that is an undeviating law of Deity, spiritual or material. In order to search for this, our noble predecessors in the mystic art made it incumbent upon its votaries to become acquainted with every useful art and science, that they might the better understand the Divine law by analyzing the works of God.

No bigotry, no fanaticism, no sickly sentimentalism did they bequeath to their successors, but freedom untrammeled to investigate all things, both material and spiritual, that thereby truth, almighty truth, might find the light.

Love, charity, hope and faith, are all parts of and emanate from truth; love may not exist without it; deception, falsehood and fraud never beget that ennobling affinity; truth alone has that power, and even after it has been fanned into bright and resplendent being, deception, falsehood and fraud may quench its genial flame.

Charity is the pure and graceful daughter of truth and love, and all suppliants for her divine benevolence must wear the garb of truth.

* * * * *

Charity does not consist merely of *giving* alms from our plethoric coffers,

but in the *way* and *manner* of giving; it must come from the heart, it must spring from sympathy with suffering, and not from a morbid desire for ostentatious display; it must be as the *widow's mite*, and not as the cold contribution of pharisaical hypocrisy.

Again, it is more than the mere giving of money, it is also that sympathy with a weak brother, which through good and kind counsel leads him from error to the path of rectitude, not that cold, puritanical disposition which condemns and punishes with the cold hand of fanaticism.

You will generally find, my brethren, that he who has no mercy, and is continually clamoring for punishment of his brother for trivial faults, is impelled by vanity; or, by appearing to be publicly just, is anxious to conceal his own frailties. To say the least, he is not imbued with the true spirit of Masonry, and has no claim to the pure essence of charity.

We quote his decisions and remarks upon the right of objection to "*advancement*," and are in full sympathy with his suggestion as to the necessity of modifying the rule, etc.

2. An objection to the advancement of a brother made in open Lodge, holds good until the objection is removed.

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4. An objection to advancement made in open Lodge, should be noted by the Secretary, and no ballot should be cast until the objection be removed.

In regard to the second and fourth decisions, I desire to make a few remarks:

While I have no doubt as to the correctness of both, I firmly believe that the rule, which must now be strictly enforced, works great hardship, and should be modified.

This privilege of objecting to advancement, places unlimited power in the hands of one member to control the material of the Lodge, as well as to affect the interests and rights of one who has already received a portion of our rights and benefits, and is no longer in the same position towards the Fraternity as a profane.

While I recognize this privilege if exercised with prudence and with a due regard for the interests of the Fraternity, as a safeguard which should not be rashly destroyed, yet I can also perceive that in some instances it may be used without such caution as such right demands, and thereby the interests of the Fraternity suffer through the bad judgment of a single member. I would recommend that the Grand Lodge direct that the rule be so modified as to give the objection only the force and effect of a black ball, which is, as I conceive, all the power that one Mason should hold over the Fraternity, or the fortunes and interests of a brother of inferior degree.

He says of the condition of the Craft in that jurisdiction and vicinity:

The emigration from the Territory during the past year, caused by the Black Hills excitement, has carried with it many of our Order; nevertheless, among those that have remained, the interest in our institution has not flagged, as is attested by the work which has been done in our different Lodges, and by our annual returns, which, notwithstanding, show the gratifying result of an increase in our number. And may we not hope that the seed of the zealous and earnest Masonry of Montana may

be sown by our migrating brethren in the new country to which they have gone, and a mighty concourse in the future be thereby added to the hosts on whose banners are inscribed the motto of Friendship, Virtue and Brotherly Love.

Thus we have allowed Grand Master Comley to speak freely to our readers the words which, we are satisfied, ably express the thoughts and purposes of Montana Masons; and, as our space is very limited, we shall and must content ourselves with a very brief further reference to these proceedings.

The reports of Grand officers, especially those of R. W. Brother Cornelius Hedges, Grand Secretary, and the general work of the Lodge, impress us with favorable convictions of the industry, wisdom and thrift of this young sister jurisdiction, whom we fully recognize and cordially greet as an able co-worker in promoting the great and glorious designs marked out upon our common Masonic Trestle Board, by the SOVEREIGN GRAND MASTER of *the universal* BROTHERHOOD OF MAN—the Ultima Thule of Masonic effort.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE,

Reported upon by Brother Cornelius Hedges, Chairman and Grand Secretary, is an important and very notable feature of these proceedings. We have read his report with pleasure and instruction, and shall avail ourselves (by quotations) of some of his opinions, which strike us as both well timed and well expressed.

Among the numerous proceedings reviewed by Brother Hedges, those of Alabama for 1875 have full space, and are commented upon with acceptable candor and discrimination. He objects, as heretofore, to the ruling (not peculiar to G. M. WILSON, who truly represented the Alabama "practice" in that respect,) "that a reversal of a judgment of a Lodge by the Grand Lodge, can not restore to membership"—which we will not now discuss, though fully pursuaded that Alabama is right in the matter. He also thinks the effort to accumulate funds for future sustenance is wrong, as it "taxes one generation for the benefit of a future one," etc. To some extent you are right, my Brother; but carry out your proposition to its extravagant ultimate and the *other generation* would not come at all for want of generative provision for the SUCCESSION. If the NOW custodians of this work, neglecting the lessons and example of their predecessors, do nothing but provide for present necessities, the future investigator or historian will anathematise the selfishness of an era which, instead of illustrating, tended to prostitute and degrade masonry. Let us act well our part in the present, and above all things strive to "leave behind us

some footprints in the sands of time that others seeing" may be encouraged to effort and to progress—and this we can not do if we only provide for our immediate necessities, or do not husband the resources generously confided to us, which latter use is all the ALABAMA "FUND" was designed and established for.

BROTHER HEDGES has conceived a strange *illusion* about us. Is it our *age* or our *principles* that he REV-erences? We were very *serious* in writing our first report, but did not intend to *preach such a sermon* as would suggest a REVEREND recognition or title. We quote his references to us, as follows:

"The report on Foreign Correspondence is rendered by *Rev.* Oliver S. Beers, in place of Brother Walthall, otherwise employed.

It is good, as we should have expected from one whose Mentor is Brother Drummond. His criticisms, not numerous, are always candid and charitable—his quotations judicious—his ambition high and honorable—his patience and industry commendable. In his conclusion, speaking of the foes and dangers to Masonry from without, he certainly has his eye in the right direction, but we incline to think that he miscalculates the nature of that conflict.

It will not be an open one, but for that reason only the more dangerous. Masonry in this contest will be backed by the intelligence and independence of the age, while the minions of spiritual despotism must trust to the decaying bulwarks of ignorance and credulity.

We regret that our proceedings failed to be submitted to the inspection of Brother Beers. Had we been informed of the miscarriage, we would have attempted another delivery. Despite the material reluctance of men to be brought to meet their *biers*, we shall hope again to meet Brother B. pen in hand.

The latest volume from Alabama is the best and handsomest of all the line.

Brother H. you have taken all the FROTH out of us in thus consigning our *Beer* to the level of the *dead*.

We quote a portion of his concluding remarks, as heretofore promised, which are well worthy of attention, viz:

We regret to see that the opinion prevails among so many very good and intelligent Masons, that our order is materializing—that more stress is laid upon the payment of dues, than any other Masonic duty: Even so good and experienced a Mason as Bro. Drummond seems to entertain those fears, and fears danger therefrom. We do not share these views, at all. That a great change has come, is true. The structure and forces of modern society have forced it to come. We couldn't have prevented it if we would; neither should we desire to do so. Some of the forms and all of the spirit we can retain from age to age, but the methods of action must conform to the age. The moment we fix beyond power of change any portion of our fabric, it will begin to wax old like a garment, and will eventually pass away. The immortality of Masonry is in its spirit

and purposes, and these will clothe themselves in forms, and adopt methods suited to the advancing stages of society.

Those who deny the importance of money to execute the purposes of Masonry, are as egregiously at fault as those who think that everything depends thereon. We are free to say that money is raised and expended for many purposes that are not properly Masonic; but we feel equally sure that Masonry could not live and discharge its functions as an organization without a steady and reliable revenue. And there is no fairer way to raise this revenue than by equality of taxation; and some proper penalty that shall secure general prompt payment is certainly necessary. How long would civil government continue if dependent on voluntary contribution, and how many would pay their taxes promptly if no penalty existed? True, we are not a civil government, but we are just as much in need of steady, reliable revenues, and must adopt the most just and rational way to secure them. There needs to be more care in the expenditure of money. There needs to be vastly more charity and reason in collecting dues. But these things will surely come, and we believe the signs of the coming are already visible.

When the body of Masons see and feel the necessity to accomplish certain purposes within their ability, the means will come forth easily. Many of the schemes that have proved so burdensome in some jurisdictions, were proper enough at some time perhaps, but were simply premature, decreed by the few without consulting the many.

The worst tendency, not only in Masonry, but it runs through all the organization of modern society, is to do every thing through and depend entirely upon some official agency, doing away too much with individual exertion and charity. While the same means thus employed can more easily accomplish greater results, there is lost the cultivating and humanizing influence upon individual character, that is too important an element to be overlooked. The two features must be combined. There must be left plenty of room and play for individual activity and charity, and not only so, but Masonry needs to correct much of the very general notion entertained about its *work*. Opening and closing lodges, and conferring degrees, is nothing but the dry, uninteresting and comparatively unimportant preparation for *work* in subduing passions, ministering to the sick, afflicted and destitute. Never think you have made a Mason till you are sure that it has touched and entered the heart as well as the tongue and head. We are taught that it is in the heart that one is first prepared to be made a Mason. It is also the finishing place, unless it miscarries altogether.

GRAND OFFICERS ELLEC.

M. W. Brother Julian M. Knight.....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother Cornelius Hedges.....(re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... 17

Work.

Number	Initiated	22
"	Passed	24
"	Raised	22
"	Affiliated and Reinstated	26
"	Dimitted	51
"	Died	7
"	Suspended and Expelled	13
"	Enrolled Master Masons	677

NEBRASKA.

The proceedings next claiming our attention and welcome, are those of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Nebraska at its (19th) NINETEENTH Annual Communication, held June 20th and 21st, A. L. 5876, A. D., 1876, at Lincoln.

Present, M. W. Grand Master Alfred G. Hastings, with a constitutional quorum of Grand Lodge constituents, to which were added by invitation all Master Masons in good standing. The Grand Master's Annual Address is a well arranged and instructive executive message, in which he discusses with conspicuous ability the topics claiming his attention and the consideration of the Grand Lodge.

Speaking of the condition of the Craft in that jurisdiction, he says:

Masonry has kept pace with our increasing population. Besides many initiations, our numbers are being constantly augmented by Masons from the older States, and judging from an extended visitation to the Lodges, and from facts elicited by an extensive correspondence throughout the State, it affords me great pleasure to say that, with but few exceptions, harmony, peace and prosperity prevail in the several subordinate Lodges throughout this Grand Jurisdiction.

* * * * * * * * *

Masonry has established for itself a high standard of morality throughout this Grand Jurisdiction, and justly challenges the respect and admiration of our citizens. Brethren, ever maintain that high standard, guard against every departure from our established rules!

Our Lodges look to the Grand Lodge for that light which is to guide them in their labors. How important, then, that our labors be attended with great care and skill. That unbiased and unprejudiced we may carefully weigh our every action, so that the Craft may not only expect, but when they turn to our records, may indeed and in truth find, that light and instruction which will aid and assist them in their efforts to advance the interests of this ancient and honorable fraternity. To this end it becomes my duty and pleasure to lay before you the records of my actions as your Grand Master during the past year.

His decisions are generally sound, though the following, unless founded upon some law of the jurisdiction are questionable rulings, viz:

10. The Lodge cannot reconsider its action granting a brother a dimit, if the brother was not clear of the books. The vote granting him his dimit is equivalent to remitting his dues.

11. Question. "Have we a right to prohibit brethren from voting at the election of officers, they being in arrears for dues?" Answer. You have not. No member of the Lodge can be deprived of his rights and privileges without due trial and conviction.

12. Question. "Is it proper, in the transaction of the business of the Lodge, to vote yea and nay, *viva voce?*" Answer. It is not. While I know of no positive law on the subject, yet custom has become so general as to establish the usual sign by raising the right hand.

He denounces as "irregularities" these glaring faults:

There is an idea quite prevalent in our Lodges among our Worshipful Masters that a dispensation from the Grand Master will cure any irregularities or set aside a by-law which may be in their way. This idea leads to much carelessness and inattention to our rules and regulations. Again, there is the practice of the committee on a petition for initiation to visit the candidate, and thus inform him of their appointment, of which certainly he has no right to know, and in cases of rejection it leads to annoying questions and much ill feeling in the Lodge. Again, to the habit of electioneering for or against a candidate for office in the Lodge, and to the forming of cliques and rings for the purpose of elevating himself or friend to office, irrespective of any qualifications, or of defeating another who may be otherwise well qualified and deserving. This, my brethren, is contrary to the plain teachings of Freemasonry, and subversive of the best good of the Craft. * * * * * *

Recommends some action on the COLORED LODGE question, and says in that connection:

The importance of the subject having attracted the attention, not only of several of our sister Grand Lodges in this country, but in Europe, and the further fact that some of the European Lodges, with whom we are in friendly communication, have adopted some resolutions looking to the formal recognition of these so-called Colored Lodges, and the certainty that sooner or later, we, as a Grand Lodge, must reach some definite conclusion and assume some positive position upon this embarrassing question, I would suggest that it be referred to a special committee to report at the next session of this Grand Lodge. Indeed I am of the opinion that this committee should report before the opening of the next Grand Lodge, and their report to be published for the use of the members, so that the brethren may be in possession of all the facts and history connected with this matter, and may then act wisely, and for the best interests of the Craft.

In response to his suggestion, the Grand Lodge referred the subject to a special committee, composed of able and judicious members, for report at the next Annual Communication. The report of Brother Grand Secretary Bowen is able and marks him as a laboring, intelligent, and useful scribe.

The proceedings generally indicate harmony and prosperity as characteristic of the "Craft" in that jurisdiction. We are glad to note that the Grand Treasury balance had more than doubled during the year, and stated in this report at nearly $4,000 00. Don't waste it, Brethren, but devote it to some good use in promoting Masonic charity.

The Oration of the Grand Orator, Brother James Laird, has quite captivated us, and its indeed a gem of rare brilliancy.

We cannot resist the temptation of reproducing a portion of it because of our special fancy for and appreciation of his admirable reasoning. His vigorous, as well as eloquently, expressed sentiments rank him an intelligent, faithful and laborious student of masonic history and ethics. How many masons live and die within reach of this mine of wealth our orator has explored, teeming with beauties new and old, and yet never dream that this heritage is theirs to possess if diligently sought after. He discusses the subject under the heads of "Antiquity," "Persistency" and its Work, and we quote a few remarks under each head:

* * * * *

The cold recital of the facts constituting the claims of this institution to great age, I see, moves no one. However, it shows you that the movements of Masonry have not been restricted to narrow bounds; it has not been anxious to deduce to-day the consequence of the premises it laid down on yesterday; some of its work may yet be deferred for ages, until the fullness of time shall come; its logic will not be less conclusive for reasoning slowly; so great a thing as providence moves through time as the gods of Homer through space—it takes a step, and centuries have rolled away. Age is not unlovely when crowned with wisdom; time is an attribute of excellence no less than labor. Yet, if you like not the skeleton at your feast, add the flesh and blood that thousands of years ago gave it beauty, and spread upon it the mantle of charity, which fifty centuries have not been able to rend, and which nineteen hundred years ago made Masonry the companion of your Christ, and then the skeleton of facts is lost in the outlines of a sweetly breathing majesty.

We present you with an Order professing high things, and which is being daily crowned with the homage of millions of men and women. History asserts its age to be greater than that of any living organization—born in the infancy of the earth, it has looked upon the unrevealed splendors of the evolving worlds of mind and matter. It has projected itself through hundreds of centuries, sowing from its almost immortal hands, as it advanced up the dim isles of time, the germs of exalted deeds. From the garnered truths by it let fall upon the fallow grounds of the ages gone, have grown the mighty facts of religion, and humanity, and freedom, that are to live through all the ages yet to be. From the dim seons of its early time there comes up a voice clearer, and stronger, and sweeter, than that of him who plead in the wilderness against the advancing feet of that one who never dies—a voice that utters words so high that they might seem echos from Sinai's transfigured mountain; words whose breathings bless the gathered brotherhood when the gracious

master breaks the seals, and in the hushed and deadly silence of our midnight watch, speaks the never-dying word.

What means it, do you ask, that we claim our beautiful rites as ancient? It means that as men and Masons, we love holy and heroic things. Your churches break and eat of the body of our blessed Lord, and pour and drink his blood; we break from the body of his work, and our bread, so broken, we cast upon the bitter waters; we drink of the blood of his inspiration, and henceforth strive to bear our cross, if not as Christians, then as *men*. That was the era of the gods; Christ lived and died in those times; miracles were abroad; the heavens were not closed against the earth, but opened to admit the ascending truth and to loose the holy dove. That impulse which we should have received, could we have stood in that age, and from the deified man, drank direct the draught of life, Masonry, there standing, may have drank, and we here drink our vast resolves from it.

Ancient Masonry stood among its many monuments and heard the great Apostle proclaiming the one God to the so-called superstitious Romans; it was at Athens when Homer sang his hero songs; it is embodied in the sublime teachings of Plato, and upon its eternal truths the immortal Socrates composed himself to death; its untiring feet followed with healing civilization the bloody track of empire Cæsar's legions cleft across the Virgin waters of Gaul and Britain, and ever upon its uplifted front was written the salutations of perfect peace.

* * * * * * * * *

The fact of years in stones and monuments, excites an idle curiosity—but what shall express the awe and reverence with which we *feel*, not hear, but *feel*, the presence in our minds and lives of a series of principles, whose embodiment amounts to the realization of the universal idea of moral grandeur, and which were originally formed in the rugged battles of fate where strength was born, and which, by virtue of their own sovereign power, called to their council men whose adherence to the grand and simple faith of brotherhood, has given to the awakened mind of all ages universal formulas of right, and founded in every Lodge at once a temple and an empire. It is not strange to the thinking man or Mason that the principles of Masonry should have arisen almost with the dawn of time and intellect. But, to those who have read its history, and the history of the world, it is matter of wonderment that it, or any other institution dedicated exclusively to humanity, should have survived the buffetings of the dark ages the preceding superstitious and idolatrous ones, and the succeeding persecutions of priests and kings, that pursued it for centuries with a brutal and deadly hate. Truly, no bantling order, cast upon the rocks of antiquity, and mothered like those fabled Roman kings, by the she-wolf's care, and often fostered, if at all, by men wild as the hawk and fox, could have power to run the race of centuries and hold as its own eternal patrimony, principles so soft and gentle, so grand and true, that they may have served to lead by the hand, mailed and embruted man, out from the clamorous age of iron into the calm one of peace.

Time, that destroys the vouchers of most systems, by the indomitable persistency of our ancient brethren, has been forced to spare those of ours. The belief of to-day becomes the tradition of to-morrow, and in another day that tradition, once so sacred to man, has drifted clear of

earth and hangs a mist of clouds in the far heavens of antiquity, where crowned mythology guards her million gods, whose once substantial realms of faith and belief have vanished into fable. Again and again the tempest of restless mind has swept the fields of opinion, and blown away doctrine and creed, and church, and state, and law, like chaff. But, from this chaos, Masonry has always arisen, holding in its lion's grip the guarantees of a better life for all, to come from the adoption of, and adherence to, its immortal principles, full of aspiration, trust, hope, and the relentless purposes of good. These it has forever persistently maintained, sanctioned, and made venerable to all men. And these it renews and recreates perpetually, and by these its principles, impartial as the sunshine and the sweetly falling rain, and its untiring devotees, is, and has been, itself, always maintained, high above ignominous fall, eternal amid its true arts and worshippers, without other change than that of exalted progress.

* * * * *

It is idle for Masonry to vaunt its virtues as wares upon the markets of to-day. From the doing of this we are forbidden, but I cannot repress the exultation with which I find in tracing the rise and progress of this principle of Masonry, that ever has it kept burning within the bosom of its Lodges the three great lights of Liberty, Equality, Fraternity, and ever has the heart of the true Mason opened in response to those magic names. Hundreds of men in the world's history, kindled with the immortal fire of these eternal principles, have caused rugged, steel-clad Europe to tremble before their words, calling millions up from out the darkness of mental and physical slavery, into the glory of that great day which has ever shed its benign light over us. Hundreds of States, once known to history, seeking to gag the infinitudes of man's soul with the formulas of the divine right of oppressors, and with the little superstitions of tyranny to fill the embrace of eternal progress, have been rolled up as a scroll and sunk from off the earth into forgotten graves. I say I cannot forbear to ask myself to whom do these glories belong, that shine so like stars in the heavens of history—to the imitators, or the inventors? For I am forever convinced that one of the grandest works of Masonry, fraught with all consequences of good, and that can never be known to men, is, that arising in the ages anterior almost to history, and organized for the propagation of art, morality, equality and freedom, that, notwithstanding the fall of Rome and the succeeding ages of darkness, in which well nigh all intelligence was blotted out, this society has kept alive within itself, for the benefit of mankind, that spirit of exalted freedom which we see has since diffused itself, like a celestial warmth, among many nations, and is forever radiating its unconquerable light upon the dark horizons of oppression.

My brothers, two facts, like hands of God, uphold the world—two truths: the one is faith; the other, labor. In view of these two omnipotent things, the world lives, and we upon it. Faith and labor. The power to believe and the power to work, make the genius and assure the destiny of men and that of Masonry. Masonry can only continue great by reason of our possession of these powers. It has armed us with weapons such as never the knights of old could boast, the weapons of

eternal truth, and we are to possess ourselves with the inspirations of its heroic faith; and then, with Sir Galihad, can we exclaim:—

"My good sword carves the casques of men,
My tough lance thrusteth sure,
My strength is as the strength of ten,
Because my heart is pure."

Nothing is greater in Masonry than that it contains the springs of faith; the springs of faith, but not of any peculiar form of faith, not orthodox or heterodox; not devotion, or what is called piety; but faith in the validity of virtue; faith in the dignity of mind; faith in the supremacy of laws; faith in the essential worth of goodness; faith in the honor of labor and the abiding ties of brotherhood—a faith that takes hold upon the earth by the grasp of love, and the heavens by the hands of an unconquerable hope. This is the faith that abides in the profound depths of Masonry; and let no man say that he is a Mason until he has found it.

The faith of Masonry is the religion of *to-day*—not of the eternal days to come—but of the present and awful now. Our friends, the churchmen, teach a faith in the resurrection of the Son of Man. This we also believe, not as a thing to come to pass when the dead earth sleeps in the infinite tomb of worlds—but as we see it in the history of societies and men; and as the world has seen it in all the heroes and martyrs that live in the heavens of memory; not the resurrection of the Son of Man as a being, but as a quality, as a principle illustrating the spirit of love, as incarnated in us all, and made manifest through the beautiful consistency of a more holy life, as seen in sweeter laws, milder punishments, a more comprehensive justice, a more absorbing aspiration after generous qualities. The resurrection, not of the body but of the spirit and will of the Son of Man, and through this that of all men.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Brother J. N. Wise, for the committee, presents the report on correspondence, and reviews with care and ability the proceedings of some 43 Grand Lodges. We do not know that the Grand Lodge of Nebraska could have made a more appropos appointment than in selecting thus *Wisely* their organ of communication with other Grand Bodies. The The report is *wise* in conception and reads like-*wise*, indeed *is* wise, without pun or peradventure. But we must discard all appearance of levity, or our good Brother of Montana will take from us the *clerical* title he so recently and generously bestowed upon us.

Brother Wise has kindly honored Alabama—proceedings of 1875—with considerate and fraternal notice, for which we thank him. He differs from Grand Master Wilson in some of his rulings, notably in the following remarks, which we quote in full, deferring comment till a more convenient season. He says:

"Among his decisions we find the following:

'Restoration of a brother who has been indefinitely *suspended*, may be

had on petition, and by a two-thirds vote of the Lodge. This restores to all the rights and privileges of masonry, except Lodge membership; but Lodge membership can only be had upon petition, and by a unanimous vote, which petition must take the usual course of applications for affiliation.

The italics are ours. This is a strange doctrine to us. How the removal of *suspension* could get a brother out of the Lodge, is a mystery we have not yet found ourselves able to solve. A suspended mason does not lose his membership in the Lodge that suspends him. He is only debarred or suspended from the enjoyment or exercise of the rights and privileges appertaining to membership, for a time definite or indefinite. Definite suspension is removed by the expiration of the time for which a brother has been suspended, and the brother is thus reinstated to all the privileges he enjoyed before the suspension. Indefinite suspension is removed by the Lodge at its pleasure, and when removed, the brother is likewise reinstated to all his previously enjoyed privileges and rights."

Our Brother seems to treat rather lightly the grave masonic offense charged by us against M. W. Grand Master Mason in 1875, and we assure him there was not another Grand Master in the whole world at that time who could have been charged with or would have committed the offense intimated by us.

See how cleverly and with what nonchalance, too, Brother W. interposes matrimony as a palliation of Brother MASON'S infringement of the Landmarks. However, we give it up, as we have no right to be hypercritical of Nevada, as we may be charged with an offense ourself for helping to send a MORGAN mason to the United States Senate. And now, having said more than we intended to, we give the paragraphs promised (referring to Alabama report on correspondence, 1875,) viz:

"Under Nevada, he says—

The report of Brother R. H. Taylor, for committee, is a creditable review of the proceedings of thirty-eight Grand Bodies, to each of which he gives due consideration. Those of Alabama for 1873 are reviewed with fraternal courtesy and due consideration. We regret our inability to dwell longer in *the jurisdiction* of Nevada, and must away! But "before we go," Brother Taylor, allow us to repeat a scandal, current here, in reference to the Grand Lodge of Nevada. It is whispered that the wife and daughters of your M. W. Grand Master are *Masons*.

We do not know how it is about the daughters, but the Grand Master's wife is a Mason, of course, for if "they twain be one flesh," how can the Grand Master be a Mason and his wife not?

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Geo. H. Thummel.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. William R. Bowen (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Whole number of chartered Lodges..... 57
(and 3 U. D.)

Work.

Initiated	196
Passed	185
Raised	175
Affiliated	302
Reinstated	14
Dimitted	106
Deceased	20
Suspended and expelled	95
Whole number of Enrolled Master Masons	2,761

NEVADA,

After a year's interregnum again appears upon, and is an acceptable addition to, our reportorial *table*. We enjoy the banquet (table) by consuming these bountiful supplies, whether we give our readers an equivalent treat (very doubtful indeed you think, reader!) or not. We beg, at least, that they will try and come "*en rapport*" with us sympathetically, and thus get a taste of the pleasures we are feasting upon while endeavoring to communicate to them the cream of our dainties, which is their "*desert.*" Here we have again gone off in a long apostrophe to *materialism*, neglecting the ethical duty before us—which is the noting and reviewing of the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Nevada in its (12th) twelfth annual Grand Communication, held in the city of Virginia, commencing Tuesday, November the 21st, A. L. 5876. M. W. Grand Master Robert W. Bollen, in the presence and with the assistance of Grand and Past Grand officers and the Representatives of ten constituent Lodges, opened the Grand Lodge in AMPLE FORM. His annual address is a long, well considered and very appropriate message, lacking nothing either in style or matter, that we can discover, requisite to its completeness.

He says of the calamities experienced recently in his jurisdiction, including the destruction by fire of the "buildings occupied by all the Masonic Bodies of Virginia City," 19th May, 1875—including the Grand Lodge Library and records, and of the disaster renewed in the fire of September 3d, 1875, to be repeated in "that widespread and fearful destruc-

tion which bore away almost the entire City of Virginia in an appalling volume of flame and cloud of smoke, was visitant here October 26th, 1875. All the books, papers, records and property belonging to the Grand Lodge, except its funds in bank and its jewels, were but insignificant contributions to the mighty conflagration. The same was true of all the Masonic Bodies, and indeed of the entire family of secret orders in the city. Not a room in the remaining portion of the city was available for the safe and proper convening of any secret body.

"The postponement of the regular Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge was imperative. With the concurrence of a majority of the Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, and upon petition of some of the constituent Lodges, I ordered the postponement until the first Tuesday in June, A. L. 5876, and made careful effort to cause distant Lodges and members of the Grand Lodge to receive notification of that fact. The month of June last brought with it but small inducement for the convening of the Grand Lodge. It is true that our zealous brethren of Virginia City, through their untiring energy, had completed their elegantly finished hall, which was ready for our use; but we were without returns from the constituent Lodges, and destitute of reports from our sister Grand Lodges. The Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence could prepare no report, and my reluctance in the effort to satisfy myself over the probable publication of our Grand Lodge proceedings without the embellishment of one of Brother Taylor's inimitable reports, was well nigh insurmountable.

* * * * * * * * *

Misfortunes and death have tinged our experience during the past two years with shades of sadness, notwithstanding the brightness of our record of zealous and unfailing attachment to our beloved Fraternity, and the great enjoyments which have attended our footsteps, and the advancements we have Masonically made through trials which have at once tested and the more firmly knit the mystic tie that binds us together.

The saddest of our more immediate bereavements, it is my painful duty to report: V.·. W.·. Brother SAMUEL H. ROBINSON, P. G. T. of this Grand Lodge, on the 24th day of October, A. L. 5875, after a long illness, passed from this life to the Grand Lodge above, where the Supreme Grand Master presides, and where the mystic lights never grow dim.

Brother ROBINSON filled many stations of honor and trust as a citizen. He was a worthy and esteemed Mason, and Past Master of *Silver Star* Lodge, No. 5. He assisted in organizing the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Nevada; served one term as Grand Steward; one term as Grand Bible Bearer; one term as Grand Sword Bearer, and in A. L. 5868 was elected Grand Treasurer. He was ever an active member of our Grand Lodge; was a good citizen and a worthy and esteemed man and Mason, and leaves hosts of friends to mourn his loss.

He discusses many questions of local interest, and is not unmindful of

that general topic which has recently *clouded* our vast Masonic horizon, threatening storms of contention; we allude to the Colored commotion, of which he thus speaks, leaning himself, we fear, too much towards *Africa*, though he recommends judicious action in the matter of

"COLORED MASONRY."

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Brother J. G. Findel, of Saxony, the well-known author of the "History of Free Masonry," wrote to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts as follows: "We have no hatred or horror of colored people masonically. The Prince Hall Grand Lodge is, without any doubt, as regular, perfect, and just as your Grand Lodge. Therefore the European Grand Lodges have no ground to measure the Prince Hall Grand Lodge with another rule, as your Grand Lodge. Some months hereafter it will be acknowledged, and will have friendly and brotherly relations with most Grand Lodges."

I have made considerable inquiry upon this subject and find colored Masons careful in the selection of their material, and that they are zealous and prudent. They are in possession of all the rights and privileges that we, as citizens, enjoy, and are in many, if not all cases, as free as we from the date of birth. As remarked, in other localities they are attracting much attention. Visiting between white and colored Lodges is not unknown, and is sanctioned in one or two jurisdictions already. There is no doubt that a free born colored man may send in his petition and may be received for initiation in any Lodge; but as was asked by Grand Master Boyd, of Ohio, "How many of them could get in?"

The whole matter presses upon us for proper and just solution. It cannot be evaded. I have no definite theory to advance. Time and careful investigation will alone warrant final action. My purpose, in alluding to this subject, is to recommend the appointment, by this Grand Lodge, of a suitable committee to investigate and gather facts and data, and to report at our next Grand Communication.

His decisions are numerous, some sixteen in all, and to us unexceptionable; but relate mostly to questions suggested by local laws and usages. Some however, as usual, relate to plain Masonic regulations which every W. M. should familiarize himself with, and the M. W. thus censures a neglect which is not confined to Nevada, but is as wide-spread as the ignorance and inconvenience to which such omissions give rise. He says in this regard that—

There is a notable failure in Masters of Lodges to comply with the law of this Grand Lodge, enacted at the Communication in 5871, requiring the reading of the Address of the Grand Master and the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence upon his decisions, at the first stated Communication after their reception by the Secretary. The Grand Lodge should, I respectfully suggest, in a marked manner call for the enforcement of this salutary rule of administration.

The instruction thus gained by the Lodges and their officers would save the asking of many unnecessary questions of the Grand Master,—

among others, whether a Lodge has the right to change its place of meeting in the same town or village.

The proceedings before us, including able reports from Grand Officers and Special Committees, are exceedingly interesting, and we could linger much longer over its well arranged, neatly printed and instructive deliverances; but we have reached a point in our report where the duty of curtailing is *imperative*, and we must be brief. We confess to a peculiar satisfaction in dwelling upon and appropriating the good things presented to our perhaps too eager search for the beautiful in Masonic literature, in these *brochures* from Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, and other new and flourishing Provinces of MASONRY, freedom and civilization beyond the Rocky Mountains. Their history, progress, and development, command our admiration, and we point with pride and pleasure to their attainments, as illustrating the genius and characteristics of Masonry, in "redeeming and changing" the wilderness, and causing the mountain as well as desert "to blossom as the rose." Here, however, we must stay our flowing pen and reserve for another day the words of comment pressing for utterance in praise of these new but already illustrious Masonic radiators of the light which our fathers longed for, "but died without the sight."

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

In these proceedings is not an "appendix," but takes its place as a regular minute in the order of its report, and in that order it claims our attention as the "next" duty in this review. It is reported upon by Bro. Robert H. Taylor for the Committee, an accomplished Correspondent, who has our full sympathy in the tribulations thus rehearsed by him, viz:

At the time of the destruction, by fire, of the Masonic Hall in the city of Virginia, on the 19th of May, 1875, full sets of proceedings of our sister Grand Lodges in North America, which had been carefully read by your Committee and were fully arranged for review, were lost or destroyed. We immediately addressed a circular to all the Grand Secretaries, and obtained duplicates, which were re-read and marked; and a large portion of our report was written, ready for the printer, when all our work was again destroyed, in the wide-spread conflagration which visited Virginia on the 26th of October, 1875.

And yet he has persevered and produced a report quite up to the excellent standard of his former reports. We are not singular in assigning to Brother Taylor's reports in this department a high position among the tallest in our ranks. His work is artistic and fits to a *dot*—he indulges in no spirit of *heaviness* and his well adjusted garments are of *praise* (most worthy), apprentice me to this *Taylor* that I may learn well to *Journey*

these difficult *seams* and *puckers* of correspondence, and thus become a master of the work!

Brother Taylor reviews, in his able and perspicuous style, the proceedings of 38 Grand Lodges, many of them in duplicate, covering in some *two* and in others *three* Communications. He finds room in his report for a fair and full review of Alabama—proceedings of 1875—objecting to some of our views, as for instance in the ruling by M. W. G. Master Wilson, and sustained generally in this jurisdiction, to the effect that the *reversal* by the Grand Lodge of a Lodge decision expelling a member does *not* restore to Lodge membership, &c., in which dissent he is thus explicit. The Illinois rule, referred to in the extract quoted below, makes *restoration* a necessary corollary of *reversal*, etc.:

We think the Illinois rule right,—only we object to the word "restored" as used in the decision,—and that the Alabama rule is subversive of justice. A brother tried and expelled upon charges which, taken as true, constitute no Masonic offense, or upon testimony which does not prove the charges, when the sentence is reversed on appeal certainly ought not to be placed in a worse position than he was before the trial. If the judgment be reversed on appeal, the Grand Lodge should, in its decision, direct how the case shall be disposed of. If it appear on the face of the proceedings, (as is frequently the case,) that the facts stated in the charges do not constitute a Masonic offense; or if it affirmatively appear that although the charges are valid the testimony shows the accused to be innocent, the decision of the Lodge should be reversed and the case dismissed. Such decision would, in effect, decide that the *membership* of the brother had never been *legally* disturbed; his membership would continue; there is nothing to "restore" him to,—nothing to "restore" to him. His relation to his Lodge, as to membership, *should* be precisely as it was before the charges were preferred. In case the decision of the Lodge be reversed for errors or irregularities in the trial, not affecting the *merits* or *gist* of the controversy then the case should be remanded to the Lodge for a new trial. In this latter event, the *status* of the accused *should* be that of a brother member of the Lodge, under charges.

We have noticed similar objections in other portions of this report and will renew the remarks here or discuss the subject further.

We have to thank Brother Taylor for some pleasant and very acceptable references to our report of 1875, which are gratefully appreciated.

Does he not treat with too much levity our grave charges against M. W. Brother Mason of Nevada, in the following comments upon our statement as quoted below:

Further, under Nevada, he says:—

"We regret our inability to dwell longer in *the jurisdiction* of Nevada, and must away! But 'before we go,' Brother Taylor, allow us to repeat a scandal, current here, in reference to the Grand Lodge of Nevada. It is whispered that the wife and daughters of your Most Worshipful Grand Master are *Masons.*"

Brother Beers, you mustn't listen to scandal. The Grand Lodge of Nevada does not recognize the wife, or daughters, or any other female relative of the "Most Worshipful Grand Master," or any other man, as "*Masons*," except always, that as in the case in hand, *Mason* happens to be the patronymic, and then we consider them "regularly made."

And now we have reached a cause of complaint against a *bone* of contention with Brother Taylor when he speaks of us in these "*cruel* words"—well meant no doubt, but, in effect, terrible indeed—

And thus we take leave of this pleasant report, with the remark that we shall always be *Byass*-ed in favor of BEERS.

How *could* you, Bro. T., associate our simple *home* brewed *malt* with this *foreign* BYASS, so suggestive of popping corks and Stout demonstrations to "fill the flowing bowl until it does run over" with its vile admixture of *Must*-y MATTER and THAMES WATER *frothing* the while with angry effervescence—in contact with our pure and *dry* American air—the atmosphere of freedom!

We'll have no BYASS in ours—thank you!

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. George Robinson.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Samuel W. Chubbuck (re-elected).....Grand Secretary

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... (with one U. D.)	18

Work.

Number	Initiated.....	178
"	Passed.....	177
"	Raised.....	173
"	Affiliated.....	236
"	Reinstated.....	20
"	Dimitted.....	145
"	Died.....	49
"	Suspended.....	57
"	Expelled.....	6
"	of Enrolled Master Masons.....	1,383

NEW BRUNSWICK.

The ninth Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of New Brunswick was held in the city of St. John, commencing Wednesday, September 27th, A. L. 5876, and was opened by M. W. Grand Master Robert T. Clinch, in Ample Form; present: (all Grand Official Stations filled) the representatives of seventeen subordinate Lodges and a number of Past Grand Officers.

The session, extending through Thursday, September 28th, was an interesting and useful one, we doubt not—being confined, except in the solitary instance of a deliverance rebuking the Ontario revolt, to a diligent "minding of their own business;" thus unwittingly, or rather, unintentionally teaching a useful *general* lesson. The Grand Master's Annual Address is a short but appropriate executive message, in which the events of the year and his suggestions are alike plainly and intelligently stated.

He says of the only death to which attention is specially called:

It is with feelings of deep sorrow that I announce to you the sudden and lamented death of M. W. Brother Aldis Bernard, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and the representative of this Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of Canada.

M. W. Brother Bernard occupied a distinguished position among his brethren, and was honored and beloved during a long Masonic career. He took a warm interest in the organization of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick, and frequently expressed to myself his affectionate and fraternal solicitude for the prosperity of our ancient craft in this jurisdiction.

He had observed and corrected several Lodge irregularities in enforcing laws, of the infraction of which he says:

I do not consider that there was, in any of these cases, a wilful breach of the Constitution, but I believe that the errors have arisen through inattention and want of proper care. That masters and officers of Lodges should be ignorant of the plain rules adopted and promulgated for the government of the Craft, is manifestly without excuse.

I cannot too strongly urge upon the fraternity a careful study of the Book of Constitution and the Ancient Regulations.

The Report of Grand Secretary Bunting is interesting and comprehensive. From this and the able Report of the "Board of General Purposes," supplementing the Grand Master's Address, we glean a very satisfactory view of the condition of affairs in New Brunswick. They are doing well, and endeavoring to plumb their Masonic work in rectitude of purpose. We see that the income is handsomely in excess of expenses—the Treasury showing the handsome surplus in two years of

$2,334 61. What will they do with it? Make it the nursing mother of a large accumulation to breed revenues for charity relief in the future.

We note as *novel*, to this era at least, the resolution introduced in the following minute:

The following resolution, viz.: "*Resolved*, That the general business of "lodges at regular communications shall be transacted on the Entered "Apprentice degree," the debate on which was deferred immediately previous to the close of this morning's session, was ruled "out of order" by the M. W. the Grand Master, "as a proposal for adding a new rule of Grand Lodge for the government of private lodges."

We note, too, that the Grand Officers were *nominated* and unanimously elected by *acclamation*.

M. W. Robert T. Clinch (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. William F. Bunting (re-appointed).....Grand Secretary.

In New Brunswick the Grand Secretary is appointed by the M. W. Grand Master.

STATISTICS.

Number	Initiated	171
"	Passed	156
"	Raised	162
"	Affiliated	29
"	Dimitted	76
"	Suspended	53
"	Reinstated	4
"	Died	29
"	Expelled	3
Whole number of enrolled Master Masons		2,246

Work.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of New Hampshire held its (we look in vain to these minutes for the age of this Body) Annual Communication in Concord on Wednesday, May 17th, 1876, and was opened in Ample Form by M. W. Grand Master William Barrett, in the presence of its Grand and Past Grand Officers and the representatives of a quorum of constituent Lodges.

This annual assemblage was preceded by a semi-annual communication, held December 28th, 1875, and devoted apparently to the exemplification of the work.

The Annual Address of the M. W. Grand Master is a plain business recapitulation of the year's doings, in which the uniform brevity of his method is only varied from (and then but partially) when announcing the demise of several lamented Craftsmen. He says that—

Since we last met in annual communication, the Great Reaper has been busy, and has taken from our ranks some of our oldest and most honored members.

On the 22d day of August, 1875, M. W. Past Grand Master Daniel Balch, closed his earthly career, and entered the Celestial Lodge above. On the 24th of August, he was buried by the Grand Lodge with Masonic honors, the Grand Master officiating. The large attendance of Masons and citizens was the best evidence of the high respect and esteem in which he was held by all who knew him.

September 10th, 1875, M. W. Past Grand Master Israel Hunt died at his residence in Nashua, and was buried on the 13th of September, with Masonic honors, by the Grand Lodge, R. W. Andrew Bunton, Junior Grand Warden, officiating.

Few men in this State were better known or held in higher esteem than our late Brother, Israel Hunt. He was born in Beverly, Mass., February 12th, 1795, and died September 19th, 1875.

It was his good fortune, during a long life, to hold many civil and military offices in the State, the duties of which he discharged with singular fidelity and honor.

And mentions the names of other worthy Past Grand Officers, and recommending suitable testimonials by the Grand Lodge of their worth. We note, as a response to his suggestions, that a Memorial Tablet page is appropriated and inscribed to each of the eight deceased worthies.

We do not find in the work of this Grand Lodge, as reported in these proceedings, anything of special interest to our readers, or involving questions of general Masonic moment. The business was quickly dispatched, and a good many necessary routine duties were intelligently performed. Sound in principle, healthy in finance and growth, is our estimate of the condition of this organization.

We were, however, quite amazed at the *number* of reports made by the "Committee on Trials and Appeals;" they number *eleven* in all, and fill as *many* pages of the minutes. This squints a little in the direction of too much law, or, possibly, too much crime.

Perhaps, though, it is caused by an efficient committee, working off old and deferred cases, which we hope is the fact.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Is very acceptably reported upon by Brother John J. Bell, *assisted* by Brother A. S. Wait, who together present a very considerate review of the proceedings of some forty Grand Lodges, in which the doings of Alabama for 1875 receive brief mention. He says of a special report from our Committee on Correspondence (that on recognition of new Grand Lodges, we suppose, he means):

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, in a special report on American Grand Lodges, are extremely technical, seeming to require written signatures of the officers and veritable impressions of the seal of the new Grand Lodges. *To our mind, this is being more nice than wise, and arises from a misapprehension of the relation of Grand Lodges to each other.*

A little curt, we think, Brother Bell—smacking somewhat of *indigestion.* But we find Alabama is not more favored in this style of criticism than some others which receive "short shrift" in this report. Perhaps, though, our New Hampshire reviewers are like a friend of ours, who *looks* ugly, but is a good-natured fellow after all, and of whom it is said, in "common parlance," "he is not always mad when he looks ugly." We hope for better luck next time, if trying to deserve it will insure kind treatment.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. John J. Bell.....Grand Master.
R. W. John A. Harris (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges	73
" Initiated	285
" Of Enrolled Master Masons	7,674

If these figures are correct as to the number of Lodges and members (and we get them from the Grand Secretary's tabular reports), New Hampshire is remarkable for Lodges with *long rolls*, the average being over *one hundred* members to the Lodge; which we note as peculiar in this day of restless yearning for new "*Hives.*"

NEW JERSEY.

The NINETIETH (90th) Grand Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of New Jersey convened in the city of TRENTON on Wednes-

day, the 17th, and continued in session through Thursday, the 18th day of January, A. D. 1877—A. L. 5877.

The proceedings before us, besides being excellently printed and arranged, are adorned with two beautiful engravings—one occupying the frontispiece, and picturing the earnest features of our worthy and intelligent Brother Grand Secretary Jos. H. Hough, who had acted as Deputy Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey from 1838 to 1843, and was in the latter year elected Grand Secretary, which exalted position he has, to this date, continued to fill "with equal credit to himself and honor to the Fraternity." May he *long* live and *serve*, 'till, like the illustrious DOVE of Virginia, he shall, full of years and renown, be called hence to flit with immortal pinions among the evergreen BRANCHES which line the Everlasting shores, and token REST to the weary from the storms which FLOOD this mortal career with pains and trials. The other engraving represents the illustrious Colonel Daniel Coxe, of Trenton, "First Grand Master of the Freemasons of New Jersey"—"one of the olden time," whose noble features, thus beautifully reproduced by the engraver's art, call to mind very vividly the virtues of this and other PATRIOTS of our HEROIC AGE. (We have the honor to represent New Jersey before the Grand Lodge of Alabama, and this is our apology for any apparent special interest in her "*personnel*," so to speak.)

We learn from those minutes that the Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form by M. W. Grand Master Marshall B. Smith, a quorum being present, and, after prayer and a song of praise, "was declared at labor."

TheGrand Master's annual address is long and able, reviewing the occurrences of the year, under appropriate headings, and offering pertinent and judicious suggestions in correction of irregularities or to promote harmony and prosperity. He commences by saying:

> Midway in this centennial year of our nation's history, while the civil and the religious world are stirred to their centers with new questions and new issues, we quietly assemble in our ninetieth Annual Communication. We gather around our sacred altar to renew our vows of Brotherhood, to maintain the ancient landmarks, and to promote the unity and well-being of the Craft. May no discordant note mar the harmony of that grand refrain of love which has formed a part of the service of Craftsmen in all ages.

And his address throughout is characterized by the commendable spirit thus indicated.

His decisions are not numerous, and involve few points of general interest. We quote two of them to which we invite attention, the first being in conflict with *usage* in other jurisdictions:

> It is not proper for Masons, as such, to participate in the *dedication* of

any room or building, no portion of which is to be used for Masonic purposes.

* * * * *

Freemasonry being professedly, as it always should be in reality, a *moral* no less than a social institution, any flagrant or wilful violation of the moral law is a wrong done to the Fraternity, and therefore a Masonic offense ; and a Brother thus offending is liable to charges.

He recommends recognition of the Grand Lodge of Cuba, alluding to Pennsylvania and Delaware as having acknowledged its claims after careful consideration. (The G. L. deferred action on this recommendation until next communication.)

He repudiates the claims of Ontario. Says of

IMPROPER PUBLICITY.

Having thus disposed of my official acts, I feel it incumbent upon me to call the attention of the Grand Lodge to a practice fraught with evil and a marked deviation from the ancient prudence and reserve of the Craft. I refer to published accounts of work, and proceedings within the Lodge. With these matters the general public have nothing to do.

* * * * *

We agree with him in and copy his remarks upon the

IMPROPER USE OF THE BALLOT.

During the year I have received a number of letters from officers of Lodges on the subject of the improper use of the ballot. The secrecy of the ballot is one of the landmarks of our Fraternity, and the *legal* right of a Brother to cast the ballot according to his own judgment is inalienable ; but no Mason has the *moral* right to drop a black ball into the ballot box, when the candidate—whether for affiliation or initiation—is morally and Masonically worthy of admission. Personal prejudices, political or religious differences, or petty animosities, should never be allowed to sully the purity of a Masonic ballot, or destroy the harmony, if not imperil the existence of a Lodge. Several of our Lodges have suffered, and one has become extinct, from the direct or remote effects of such a policy.

No law can reach such cases without trenching upon the landmark ; but I most earnestly appeal to the better nature and to the moral sense of the Masons of New Jersey, to avoid in future a practice that is contrary to the spirit of our Institution, destructive of its harmony, and calculated to transform the ballot into an instrument of animosity and revenge. Let us rather cast the white ball in favor of one who disagrees with us—if he be Masonically a good man and true—and thereby transform an enemy into a friend and brother. If this course were pursued with proper discretion, we should have harmony in all of our Lodges, and perhaps also a large accession to our working force, in the persons of worthy Master Masons, who are to-day unaffiliated solely on account of the improper use of the black ball. And more than all, we should have the satisfaction

that ever results from having risen above petty considerations, to the discharge of our duty, in a spirit of generosity, forgiveness, and love.

He is opposed to the too stringent and frequent use of the power of "suspension for non-payment of dues," and says on this topic:

The collection of dues may be a necessary custom, but it is by no means an ancient one, and can make no pretensions to rank as a landmark; and it is, in my opinion, unmasonic and unjust to suspend—as has been done—Brethren who have formerly contributed regularly, but whose misfortunes have become, in the judgment of some, their crime. A Brother who has been a true Mason when he could pay, should have his dues remitted when he cannot pay them.

To which we assent most heartily.

The proceedings and work of this Grand Lodge were conducted with the dignity, intelligence and harmony characteristic of New Jersey Masonry, and we regret our inability to ponder longer over the pages which record the doings of this interesting communication.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Is ably reported upon by Bro. Alex. Fullerton, for the committee, who presents an excellent review of the proceedings of 48 Grand Lodges, in which Alabama—minutes of 1875—receives attention and favorable notice. Bro. Fullerton, we observe, in reading his running comments on the doings of other jurisdictions, has the happy faculty of saying very briefly and wisely what is necessary and yet never departing from the requisite "*suaviter in modo*," so promotive of harmony, qualities which "highly adorn" a critic; will he like Bro. Marshall B. Smith, be taken from *us* to adorn the great East and thus get *high* above our *level*?

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Marshall B. Smith (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Jos. H. Hough (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges	147	
Previous membership		11,955
Raised during the year		173
Affiliated		88
Restored		539
		12,755

Total membership in 1876		12,755
Dimitted	181	
Deceased	145	
Suspended, U. M. C	5	
" N. P. D	431	
Expelled	5	—767
Total membership at this date (1877)		11,988

NEW MEXICO.

We have a pamphlet before us bearing the great seal of the Grand Lodge, containing the Proceedings of the Masonic Convention to organize a Grand Lodge, and also of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico.

The Convention assembled in pursuance of a previous call to the several Lodges in that Territory, at Santa Fe August 6th, 1877, and was attended by the representatives of the three Lodges "which had previously voted to join in the organization of the proposed Grand Lodge."

The Lodges represented by duly appointed delegates were: Aztec, No. 108, Chapman No. 95, and Montezuma No. 109, all working under charters from the M. W. Grand Lodge of Missouri.

These delegates wasted no time in delays, but proceeded immediately after organization to appoint a committee to prepare a draft of a constitution and by-laws for the government of the Grand Lodge. This committee reported the same day at 7½ p. m., when they submitted a constitution, by-laws and seal, which report was then discussed and the next morning adopted.

So, after one night of labor, this new birth was accomplished. The constitution adopted appears to us quite unexceptionable, and we shall take pleasure in presenting it to our Grand Lodge with commendations looking to recognition if other conditions are equally favorable.

The Convention next proceeded to elect officers under their newly adopted Constitution, as follows:

William W. Griffin	Grand Master.
William L. Rynerson	Deputy Grand Master.
Simon B. Newcomb	Grand Senior Warden.
George W. Stebbins	Grand Junior Warden.
Willi Spiegelberg	Grand Treasurer.
David J. Miller	Grand Secretary.

These Grand Officers having been installed on the 7th, the Grand

Lodge assembled on the 8th of August, and proceeded to discuss the "work," as well as "to will and to do" such things as were proper and right for the government and prosperity of the new organization; and we note that all things appear to have been done in a business-like and creditable manner.

The next regular Annual Communication was appointed to convene at Santa Fe, on the first Monday of January, 1879.

Address of the Grand Master and of the Grand Secretary is Santa Fe, New Mexico.

We hope to meet these Brethren again.

NEW YORK.

NINETY-SIX! The M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New York convened in its *ninety-sixth* Grand Annual Communication in the City of New York, on the 5th of June P. M., A. L. 5877, continuing for three days a very important and laborious session, in which questions of vital importance to its honor and future well being were discussed and disposed of in a manner creditable to its integrity, firmness, and intelligence. We allude here especially to its financial embarrassments, of which we have, in our former reports, given all necessary details, and shall only in this refer to the unpleasant *outcome* of those involvements in the contentions of SUBORDINATES, too restless under the burden of taxation, incident to the debt, to respect their obligations to the organization, or to Masonic integrity. We shall endeavor to acquaint our readers with these matters by means of suitable extracts from the minutes relating thereto. Two great and important lessons are impressed upon us by these troubles of New York, viz.: Avoid debt, but meet all such difficulties with unwavering fortitude and *integrity* when and if, unfortunately, they occur.

The Communication under review—attended by a large number of its constituent members, including Grand and Past Grand Officers, Grand Representatives, and the Representatives of 667 of its 714 (then existing) Subordinate Lodges—was opened in Ample Form by M. W. Grand Master James W. Husted, whose Annual Address is one of those admirable deliverances for which New York is noted, and which, we think, have established a classic standard for such Executive Messages. We cannot refrain from expressing, before going further with our imperfect review of these voluminous proceedings, and their abundant treasures of instructive matter, the diffidence we always feel in essaying a criticism on the minutes of the Grand Lodge of New York. This year we are relieved somewhat from our usual embarrassment by the necessity of the situation

which impels us to be brief, but this temporary shelter to our impotence suggests another serious trouble in the difficulty of choosing among so much that deserves notice—the matter least (or most?) susceptible of abbreviation or curtailment.

We quote from Grand Master Husted's address the narrative of *insubordination*, involving the debt question and other matters incident thereto, viz.:

DOMESTIC.

Brethren, I regret to say that an event has transpired within our own jurisdiction which has brought sadness and sorrow to many a Masonic heart. On the 10th of March last, as stated in a circular issued immediately thereafter, a meeting of Past Masters, Masters, and Wardens of the several Masonic Lodges in Rochester was held in that city, at which meeting it was resolved:

"That a circular be sent to every Lodge in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, setting forth the necessity of *financial reform*, and urging each Lodge to delegate its Master, or other representative, to attend a Convention, to be held at Masonic Temple, in Rochester, on the 25th day of April, 1877, at 10 o'clock, A. M., to decide upon some united plan of action touching the contemplated temporal extension of clause 9, of section 40, of Article VII., of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, commonly known as the fifty-cent clause."

By accident, certainly not by design, on the part of the originators of this movement, a copy of the circular fell into my hands. In reference to the clandestine manner in which the preliminary proceedings were conducted, I quote, as singularly pertinent, the views of P. G. M. Fox, who, with reference to a similar state of affairs, used these words:

"This opportunity is taken to make our acknowledgment to the brethren who originated the call for an emergent communication in this instance for the compliment paid the Grand Master in seeking to induce, through the influence of the subordinate bodies, a favorable response to their desire, rather than present a matter for his decision which their judgment must have assured them would have met with an emphatic refusal."

Immediately upon its receipt, I addressed a circular to the Masters, Wardens, and brethren of the several Lodges in the jurisdiction, wherein, waiving all recognition of this unauthorized, unconstitutional, unmasonic, and irregular movement, I addressed myself to the discussion of the main question, which, by this ill-advised circular, had, at an unwarranted time and in an unwarranted manner, been made an issue.

To the circular issued by me, I received responses of approval from all parts of the jurisdiction. But, to my surprise, notwithstanding the implied warnings that it embodied, I learned that the promoters of this movement were, nevertheless, persistent and pertinacious. There was but one course left. A proper respect for the dignity of the position which you had accorded me, a due regard to the obligation that I had assumed, a recognition of the solemn and binding force of that obligation, forbade that I, as the conservator of the Constitution, should, under any

circumstances, allow its provisions to be disobeyed or disregarded. Empowered and obligated "to exercise all the executive functions of the Grand Lodge, when not in session," I never faltered nor hesitated in the course that I felt and knew it to be my duty to pursue.

I ordered R. W. W. J. LaRue, District Deputy Grand Master of the Masonic District within whose jurisdiction the city of Rochester is embraced, to represent me, and to forbid, in my name, the organization of any Masonic Convention. This order was obeyed; but while the letter of the order was heeded, its spirit was evaded. Although the assemblage withdrew from the Hall without organizing as a Masonic Convention, they repaired to an adjoining room, and proceeded to organize as a Convention of individuals; whereupon an address was prepared, which has since been printed and sent to all of the Lodges within the jurisdiction. To this address its authors had the wise discretion not to append their names.

Its reasonings are sophistical and fallacious. Its allusions to the Circular of the Grand Master are couched in language written with evident "intent to deceive." No one knew better than the author of the document that the Circular of the Grand Master was written for the faithful, not for the violators of the Constitution. Not satisfied with an infraction of the organic law, they have gone still further, and defied the authority of the Grand Lodge itself. Notwithstanding the resolution of the Grand Lodge, adopted June 7, 1872, "That in the judgment of this M. W. Grand Lodge the custom of demanding an exhibit of the financial condition of Subordinate Lodges * * * * is inquisitorial and unnecessary," the authors and promoters of this scheme forwarded with their address a printed slip containing a list of questions in direct violation of this expressed resolution.

I "shall nothing extenuate, nor aught set down in malice;" but I here solemnly declare that such unwarranted proceedings as have characterized this movement, from its inception to its close, deserve the stern condemnation of the Masonic Fraternity of the State of New York.

I do not propose here and now to argue the question of the necessity of the continuance of the tax; that question I discussed at length and *in extenso* in the Circular of April 2d. But, brethren, I go further than I was then justified in doing in a printed document, scattered broadcast through the mails and postoffices of the State. I say to you now, in all earnestness, in all sincerity, in all confidence, that this is not a question for discussion. It is a question for prompt, for decisive, for energetic action. It is *the* question which overshadows all others. It is the question of self-preservation. At such a time, the fever is stirred "in the blood of age," and the infant's sinew becomes "strong as steel." I have no fears of the result. I have too abiding a faith in the influence of the sublime tenets of our grand and glorious brotherhood to hazard for a moment a doubt as to the action of this Grand Body upon a matter of so vital importance to the integrity, to the honor, to the reputation of the Fraternity, not alone in this jurisdiction, but throughout the world. Who challenges the sublime idea embodied in this enterprise? Who disclaims the blessings that will flow from its assured success? Who begrudges to Masonry this magnificent Temple, in which she may, for ages

to come, celebrate her glories in the moral, her triumphs in the material and the social world?

"If such there be, go mark him well!"

No, my brethren, these things cannot, they must not be!

Assuming as our own the motto of our grand old Commonwealth, let us aspire to higher honors still. Within the passing year, we have canceled Forty Thousand Dollars of our indebtedness. In eleven years the whole debt will be paid off, and the corner-stone of the Asylum will be laid. Not only that, but a fund ample for every need will have been secured.

Just here we beg to state that Grand Lodge in its subsequent legislation responded nobly to the appeal of the Grand Master, and in spite of captious opposition *levied the tax* required to sustain its honor and protect the debt. The following able report of the "Committee on Constitution and Statutes" was adopted, with resolutions accordant thereto, viz:

The sole questions that seem to be presented to this body by these facts are, whether we shall repudiate our debt, or faithfully and honestly fulfill our obligations? Shall we pay the principal and interest incurred in the construction of this Masonic Temple, or shall we cease to do so, and submit to hand it over to the money-changers, thereby abandoning our magnificent Temple, consecrated to Masonry, to be, mayhap, a den of thieves or gamblers, or used for other base or ignoble purposes? How can we ever look back at the glorious ceremonies attending the laying of its corner-stone and the dedication of the finished Temple, in both of which this Grand Body and all of its subordinates, and thousands upon thousands of our members participated, and ever think for one moment of giving up this glorious work of our hands and hearts, and holiest thoughts and aspirations, to such base uses?

Your Committee cannot believe that the Craft of this Empire jurisdiction having entered upon such a noble work as this—having pursued it with ardor and Masonic zeal to its construction and final dedication to Masonic uses—are now, for the sake of saving the paltry contribution of fifty cents by each member annually, going to desert the Temple, abandon the undertaking, and give up the result of their past labors, and toils, and cares!

This Grand Body has but just entered upon a new and untried method of managing the affairs of the Hall and Asylum Fund by persons other than its Grand officers, and have elected Trustees for that purpose. This has been done with entire unanimity as to the change of Trustees from the Grand officers to Master Masons specially selected. Is the Grand Lodge now ready to say to the Trustees only just elected: "You are excellent men for the offices to which you have been elected, and we have entire confidence that you will faithfully and honestly execute the duties of your trust, and provide all necessary funds yourselvs for that purpose; and we leave the matter in your hands."

If the Grand Lodge shall say this, and not provide the means necessary to meet all the liabilities accruing for the construction of the Temple and the indebtedness of the fund, they will do a worse thing by the newly elected Trustees than the Egyptian task-masters did by the Israelites

when in bondage, for *they* furnished clay, at least, if they did not straw, for the work, but we give only words—signifying nothing.

No, brethren, let us never abandon this noble work. We have laid our hands to the plow; let us not look back, or sigh over "the flesh-pots" that we lose by the contribution of the fifty cents each annually; and let us continue the payment till not only the Temple is paid for but the Asylum erected, and then let it be continued as an annual donation toward the education and support of the orphans of Masons, and the maintenance of their widows, and of infirm and poor brethren.

The following Trustees of the "Masonic Hall and Asylum Fund," authorized under a special (recent) statute of the State of New York, providing for the control and protection of this FUND, were appointed, viz:

Harvey Farrington, for three years.
Zachariah Dederick, for two years.
Philo Remington, for one year.

And other acts done in that behalf which we think betoken the final and complete mastery of this perplexing problem. Returning to the Grand Master's address, we make room for a brief extract from his remarks under the head of

OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS.

With the various Grand Lodges on this continent our relations are of the most cordial and fraternal character, such matters of difference as may have arisen in questions of Lodge practice not being of a nature to disturb the general harmony. Abroad, matters are different, the chronic invasion of our rights by the Grand Lodge of Hamburgh and the course pursued by the Grand Orient of France having undergone no change during the year. It is, therefore, unnecessary that I should detain you with a recital of the thrice-told tale of our grievances in this regard; but I deem it proper to say that the action of the German Grand Lodges, through their Annual Diet, though not yet what we desire, appears to be approaching a definite form in accordance with the wishes of the American Grand Lodges. The difficulty seems thus far to be that our brethren abroad do not seem fully to understand our position and what we claim to be our rights in the premises. We are a nation, but a nation made up of independent States, united together for mutual protection, but in our domestic matters acting each for itself, and each one jealous that its domestic rights shall not be made the subject of interference either by another State or by the whole nation. Hence, our Grand Lodges act, each for itself, in accordance with the general principles of the Craft, but independently of all others, so far as the concerns of Ancient Craft Masonry are in question. Thus each Grand Lodge is in itself a Masonic nation, and admits no interference with its rights of domestic authority. When we say that we claim sole and absolute jurisdiction in our respective territories we mean that no Lodge can be instituted, governed, or withdrawn without our consent; we mean that when any other Masonic power, either directly or by implication, undertakes to establish or to

countenance the establishment of Lodges within the lines of any of our regularly established jurisdictions, they trespass on our rights and imperil that feeling of harmony and brotherly love which we are anxious to maintain.

Hastening now through the wilderness (in extent) of notable matter contained in these minutes, we stop to express our approval of the reports of the Commissioners of Appeals, which are excellent, and to say we would give "*a coolcie*" to read the letter evolved in the case of CONNER vs. GARSON (or Garson vs. Conner, if that be the title of record), of which the Commissioners say:

W. Bro. Connor two days after the election at which he and W. Bro. Garson had respectively been elected to the office of Master and Secretary of the Lodge, wrote requesting his retirement from office.

* * * * * *

The letter in reply to such request and upon which the charge in this case was founded, giving the reasons why he declined to resign the office as Secretary, is a remarkable production in the extravagance of its expressions, and the severity of its sarcasm; and the Commission find great difficulty in giving in this opinion an adequate idea of its scope, style, or subject matter.

* * * * * *

That reply is a wonder as a rhetorical composition, most severe in its expressions, which relate to the W. Bro. addressed, and most sarcastic in its allusions to his Masonic ability and competence, and to a degree which astounds all who may peruse it; but that it is within the purview of the law to indict, or punish its writer for a criminal act, is not so clear; and your Commission is of the opinion that the writing of it was not an indictable offense, and, after full consideration, in view of all the circumstances, that, it is not a Masonic offense.

We own up to an *itching* curiosity to see *that* letter, in which, as we learn, "Bobby Burns'" couplet of the "*louse*" and "*curl*" figures as a specimen of its pungent sarcasm.

We are now pushing aside all other matter to reach the report on

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE,

Which requires no other general comment than the remark that it is written by Brother Jno. W. Simons, and bears the imprint of his genius and skill.

He reviews with marked ability the proceedings of some 43 North American Grand Lodges, giving also a very complete retrospect of Masonry in Europe and South America (including Cuba). From this latter branch of his report we propose, as far as our space will permit, to extract needed information on the important controversy pending between Europe and America on the absorbing question of Grand Lodge Inde-

pendence and Sovereignty—involving incidentally, but none the less unpleasantly, the COLORED imbroglio. We shall quote with further comment these excerps from Brother Simons' well digested foreign record.

In his report on correspondence, Alabama—proceedings of 1876—receives full and complimentary notice.

Brother S. quotes freely from Grand Master Pillan's annual address (his first), giving many of his decisions, dissenting, as we understand it, to one only, as follows—(we quote both the decision and his comments)—

"5. That the consent of a Lodge rejecting an applicant for degrees must be obtained before an application to another Lodge can be entertained.

Of No. 5, in the foregoing, we remark that we find it more convenient to allow application to be made and acceptance certified before asking consent. If consent is refused, the preliminaries go for nothing. On the other hand, the willingness to accept prevents the candidate from being bandied about like a foot ball."

The report of Brother Titcomb, chairman of the committee on appeals, is commended. We extract the remainder of Brother Simons' remarks, under the head of Alabama, entire—including his reference to this appeal deliverance, (which, though heretofore published, will bear repetition). His notice of "CORRESPONDENCE" and remarks on the German League controversy, are a convenient prelude to the extracts we propose to give on the latter theme:

"The committee on appeals, in concluding their report, submit the following, which we commend to thought—

In conclusion, your committee ask permission to observe, that there is daily, hourly necessity for us as masons, 'to put a bridle on the tongue.' A careless remark may at times do incalculable mischief. A single word spoken at some particular juncture, may blast reputation as the fire of the heavens scorches the majestic tree and dries up its fountain of life. To appreciate the importance of circumspection in respect to our intercourse with each other and with profanes, let us keep in mind the fact that human influence is well-nigh measureless. A casual remark is often like the pebble tossed upon the water in repose; the tiny circlets of wave expand and widen and spread, and continue to extend until in the distance they are lost to view. The cases are analogous.

Again, let us be careful how we plight our word as masons. Some are entirely too free in use of masonic pledges. Too frequently that expression, 'on the word of a mason,' leaps from the tongue with the agility of a startled hare. Such should not be the case. A masonic pledge should never be lightly given, but once given should be held as most sacred. This observation is suggested by almost daily experience; and it is trusted that its presence here will not be deemed amiss. To discuss the effect of common violation of masonic pledges would be as superfluous as would be an argument to prove that 'round' is not 'square.' The foregoing observations are not censoriously, but kindly intended, and are made use of because disregard of such leads surely to strifes and trials.

It must be apparent that the great source of ills like these is remissness in guarding our portals. The question, How is it that we sometimes—nay, often—find such miserable material in our grand old edifice? finds its solution for the most part in that remissness."

The report on correspondence is again from the polished and facile pen of Brother Oliver S. Beers, and maintains his reputation as a careful reviewer. New York, for 1876, has extended and most fraternal notice, for which we thank him; and take occasion to call his special attention—as well as that of all our correspondents—to the transactions of the German League at its last meeting, as well as our own comments thereon. This question has now assumed a phase we can no longer ignore, and the argument is brought down to the simple question of a full and unreserved acknowledgment of our rights of jurisdiction, or the surrender of the whole by us; because there can be no intermediate station. If, under what the German League is pleased to call its "domestic rights," it may hold friendly correspondence, and interchange visits with clandestine bodies planted in our midst without our consent, then its acknowledgment of our right of jurisdiction is a mere farce, since it holds out the word of promise in one direction and violates it in another. The time has now arrived for us all to look this matter squarely in the face, and to decide, once for all, whether we are to rule and govern in our respective jurisdictions, or whether we are merely to exist in common with as many others as may choose to dispute our right. We trust that the several Grand Lodges will earnestly consider the situation, and see to it that their utterances have no uncertain sound.

We desire to acknowledge our indebtedness to Grand Secretary Sayre, for courtesies received at his hands."

THE GERMAN GRAND LODGE LEAGUE,

Pending the questions of jurisdiction over German Lodges located in New York, and the recognition of "Grand Lodges composed of colored persons in Massachusetts and Ohio," made the following deliverance June 4th, 1876, (the comments are by the New York Committee) promulgated June 30th, 1876, by circular letter of "FREDERICHS."

"1. That the Grand Lodge Diet declares that it is not its purpose to interfere with the Constitution of the North American Grand Lodges in any way. As the German Grand Lodge League claims to have the right to examine for itself the formation of new Grand Lodges in Germany, or to accord to other Grand Lodges the right to found Lodges in Germany, it concedes the same rights to the Grand Lodges of America for North America.

2. Whereas it determines to admit brethren of foreign Grand Lodges, which in its view have been legally constituted and work according to masonic rules, using only its domestic privileges and conceding these same rights to the American Grand Lodges in their own affairs.

3. It is ready for a peaceful, fraternal discussion with the American Grand Lodges touching the extension of the acknowledged right of jurisdiction and the necessary exceptions to the rule.

4. The executive Grand Lodge (Three Globes) is empowered to trans-

mit, through the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, these resolutions to the American Grand Lodges, and also to recall the resolutions passed at Berlin in 1874 on the subject of jurisdiction."

The foregoing propositions were subsequently modified and presented as follows:

"The Grand Lodge Diet declares—

1. It is not its design nor aim to intrude in the masonic condition and Constitution of the North American Grand Lodges, and it further acknowledges and concedes to the Grand Lodges of the United States and Territories the same rights and privileges it claims for itself in German territory, as laid down in the resolutions of May 24, 1874.

2. Whereas, in conceding the admission, as visitors to the German Lodges, of foreign brethren, members of Lodges which, according to its view, work on masonic principles, it exercises merely its domestic authority and recognizes the same rights in the American Grand Lodges.

3. The executive and presiding Grand Lodge (Three Globes) is instructed to inform the Grand Lodge of the State of New York of this resolution, and of those adopted in 1874, in relation to the National Lodge Constitution."

These modified propositions were adopted, the Grand Lodge of Hamburg alone dissenting.

It will, of course, be understood that much other business was transacted, but as before remarked, we have deemed it best to omit any account of it in order that attention may be concentrated on that which so nearly concerns our interest.

We next call attention to the following letter, addressed to the Grand Lodge of New York, and through it to the several Grand Lodges in North America. It is written, as will be seen, by the agent of the Diet, in obedience to the third of the modified propositions:

"BERLIN, June 30, 1876.

The Grand Master of the National Grand Mother Lodge 'Zu den 3 Weltkugeln, (Three Globes), at Berlin, at present presiding and executive officer of the German Grand Lodge League, to the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New York:

Most Worshipful and Beloved Brethren—In consideration of the resolutions of the German Grand Lodge Diet at Darmstadt (1875) referring to the masonic international relations between the German Grand Lodges and several Grand Lodges of colored masons in the United States of America, the M. W. Grand Master, Brother Ellwood E. Thorne, considered it his duty to place before the M. W. Brother Pfaltz, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge 'Zur Eintracht,' and presiding officer of the German Grand Lodge League, several questions about the significance, meaning and intention of said resolutions. Brother Pfaltz, who expressed his individual opinion only, in his answer to the letter of Brother Thorne, promised at the same time to bring the matter before the next meeting of the German Grand Lodge Diet for adoption of such resolutions as could be regarded to be a definitive answer on the questions asked by your M. W. Grand Master.

This has been done at the Grand Lodge Diet held this year, on the 4th of June, at Berlin, and I have the honor, by order and in behalf of the

German Grand Lodge Diet, to bring these resolutions to your knowledge. The same read as inserted in the minutes of June 4th, viz :

1. It is not the design nor aim of the German Grand Lodge Diet to intrude in any way into the masonic conditions and constitutions of the North American Grand Lodges; on the contrary, the German Grand Lodges concede to them the same rights and privileges within the territories of the United States which they claim themselves, in accordance with the resolutions of the 24th of May, 1874, within the boundaries of the German Empire.

2. By allowing foreign brethren, who belong to a Lodge which, in its views, works on masonic principles and precepts, to visit the German Lodges, the German Grand Lodge League exercise and practice only a domestic authority and concede the same right to the American Lodges.

I have also the order to call your brotherly attention to the resolutions adopted at Berlin on Whitsunday, 1874, by the German Grand Lodge Diet, and take the liberty to bring the same again before you. These resolutions read, as the minutes show, as follows :

The Grand Lodge Diet considers the so-called right of jurisdiction, which is claimed by several Grand Lodges, not as a right which emanates from the moral and legal principles of the Craft, or from original or Ancient Laws of the Fraternity, but only as an institution which is based partly on the ground of national adjudication and partly on the ground of appropriateness, and find that some understanding about the application and extension of the same is possible and desirable.

The German Grand Lodges consider the whole German Empire as a common territory and province, and acknowledge, reciprocally, that each German Grand Lodge can constitute and charter subordinate Lodges in German territory, if the laws of the land do not object and forbid.

Both resolutions, of the year 1874 and of this year, determine distinctly the point of view and principle which the German Grand Lodge Diet has taken in regard to the right of jurisdiction, and pronounce at the same time in which sense the Darmstadt resolutions in reference to the colored Grand bodies of North America were adopted.

Being convinced that the main question of principle in the matter as assumed by the German Grand Lodge Diet, and as explained and laid hereby before you. is calculated to sustain and consolidate the fraternal relations between the American and the German Grand Lodges, as hitherto existing, I hope and believe, that now all interruptions of the same are removed, and that the brotherly intercourse between Germany and North America will be promoted from day to day, and will become more and more intimate.

Accept, M. W. and Beloved Brethren, the expression and the assurance of our brotherly love and esteem, and our masonic greeting.

By order.

(Signed) FREDERICHS,

Delegate of the Grand Lodge of the Three Globes to the Grand Lodge Diet.

To this action New York, through its Committee on Correspondence, responds in the following appropriate

REMARKS.

It will be seen by the foregoing that we have furnished the full text of the proceedings of the German Grand Lodge Diet, so far as the same relates to us, together with the official response of the Diet to the letter of M. W. Bro. Thorne, as well as some expressions of individual (German) opinion, and after a very careful examination of the whole, we are compelled to remark, that the Diet does not appear to comprehend the situation; for while it resolves to accord us the same right in our own territory that it claims for itself in Germany, it imemdiately contradicts itself, by declaring that it will judge for itself, whether Lodges clandestinely planted in our territory are regular or not, and if it finds them conducted on what it assumes to be correct principles, then, notwithstanding our rights in the premises, notwithstanding our conceded right to govern and regulate Masonry in our respective jurisdictions, it will acknowledge and encourage these spurious organizations by admitting their members to visit in their Lodges,

Thus the so-called Grand Lodges of colored persons—we believe there are two or more of them in the State of New York—are declared to be sufficiently regular for the purposes of recognition by visitation, though not by formal interchange of representatives, and this, too, in the face of the fact that the Grand Lodge of the State of New York has occupied this territory since 1781, and that, therefore, any Lodge claiming to exist in this State without the direct authority of our Grand Lodge is of necessity clandestine and irregular. Precisely the same state of facts exists in the case of Ohio and that of Massachusetts, the colored organizations there being held in the very teeth of the pre-existing and lawful Grand Lodges of those States.

Again, the Diet has no word of condemnation for the continued trespass of the Grand Lodge of Hamburgh on that very right of jurisdiction which the Diet professes to respect. Let us once more repeat, therefore, that each one of the Grand Lodges of North America, for itself and for the rest, claims the *sole*, *undivided*, and IMPERATIVE RIGHT of JURISDICTION within the respective limits of the State or Territories in which they are located. These words mean neither more nor less than they express, and therefore when the Diet by its resolutions speaks of recognizing parties located in our territory in defiance of our law and our right, and at the same time professes to recognize our right of jurisdiction, it simply belittles our intelligence by making it appear that we do not understand our own language nor appreciate our own laws.

The resolutions of the Diet are not satisfactory, and will not be received by the American Grand Lodges as an acceptable solution of the questions at issue, as indeed, nothing will, but a frank recognition of our *exclusive right of jurisdiction with all the consequences thereto attaching*. The Diet has traveled part of the way by its conditional recognition, and we most earnestly and fraternally urge it to finish the journey by a complete withdrawal from so much of its position as we have demonstrated to be untenable and unsatisfactory to the Grand Lodges on this continent. We fraternally request the Diet and its constituents to consider that, although they may agree to concurrent jurisdiction among themselves, we do not and cannot now establish any such law here, and that, consequently,

what the American Grand Lodges require of and concede to each other must *ex necessitate* be the rule of action in regard to all others in this country. When this is properly understood and frankly acted upon there will be peace and harmony.

And here we must stop, leaving out much that we had selected for publication, because we have not space for further comment. We remark with pleasure, however, that this controversy is approaching, as we view it, a termination favorable to equity and harmony. Germany is beginning to concede points heretofore tenaciously adhered to, and she did eventually recognize the fact that the GOOD OF MASONRY, if there were no other reasons enforcing the American position, demands the *direct* control of Subordinate Lodges by a *home* GOVERNMENT and Sovereignty in lieu of a far off allegiance to which, in the very nature of the case, little or no idea of Government attaches.

Nor will she be long in arriving at the reasonable conclusion that her dignity and duty alike forbid intercourse with peripatetic and impulsive Masonic adventurers, against the remonstrances of the Sovereign Grand Lodges to whom, if any where, such travelers owe allegiance.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Joseph J. Couch, (Brooklyn) .....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. James M. Austin (New York, re-elected)...Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... 718

Work.

Initiated..... 2,938
Passed 2,987
Raised..... 3,081
Whole number of Enrolled Master Masons.....78,913

NORTH CAROLINA.

The proceedings before us record the doings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of North Carolina at its (90th) Ninetieth Annual Communication, commencing December 5th and closing December 9th, A. L. 5876, opened in AMPLE FORM by M. W. Grand Master George W. Blount, "a constitutional number of Lodges being represented," delivered an earnest and

appropriate annual address, from which we quote a few paragraphs of general interest. He says:

The year just ending has been one of great trial to individuals and to Lodges. Much suffering and distress have been the consequence. Many, *very many* who have never done so before, have had to struggle hard for the necessaries of life to the exclusion of those duties which pertain to the Lodge-room. The unusually long and exciting political campaign has absorbed the attention of a great many others. These causes have combined to distract our minds in a great measure from the business of the craft, and the consequent neglect of the duties of Masonry has greatly paralyzed our work and brought discouragement to many of our most active agencies. Since fruitful harvests have in a measure assuaged the anxieties about the necessaries of life, and the political cauldron has simmered down to something like placidity, let us enter again upon the great work of Masonry with renewed vigor. Let us put our shoulders to the wheel, and with determined PUSH set in full motion all the activities of the Craft, and practically demonstrate that Masonry is not mere ceremony for the amusement of a spare hour, a pastime for holiday enjoyment, but the bond of union for the promotion of the cause of Truth, Justice, Temperance and Charity, and that the ritualistic lessons taught in the Lodge, by symbols, are the foundation of, and introduction to, the works of love which distress and calamity open to view. A distinguished divine once said in a Masonic address, "The whole secret of Masonry is *Love*," and so it is the GRAND CENTRAL basis on which the superstructure rests.

The forms, ceremonies, signs and symbols are the vehicle for the implantation and impression thereof upon its votaries, and he who passes through the ceremonies and discovers nothing but form, and perceives not the underlying truth and comprehends not the grand principle illustrated, has given his strength for naught, and his substance for that which perisheth. *So many* are in that category that many Lodges are so only in name, many masons mere stumbling blocks. The works of benevolence and charity, of love to all the Fraternity are to them *heavy taxes* and a drag. Brethren, these things ought not so to be. Let us *bestir ourselves* and wake up to our duties and obligations and learn *anew* the ceremonies of the Lodge and try to perceive the lesson.

Had used "discipline" judiciously and with good effect towards three Lodges guilty of irregularities, and very properly recommends the strict enforcement of the rules and edicts of the Grand Lodge, which appear to have been openly violated in some instances.

Of "the orphan work," his report, we regret to see, is not flattering. Many difficulties and disappointments had occurred to retard, if not endanger, the enterprise. One bright spot appears, however, in the timely assistance rendered by the Rev. L. M. Pease, described as "a big-hearted benevolent man," * * "devoting his time and fortune to works of Benevolence and Charity." We are glad to see that the Grand Master is not discouraged, but still calls to the rescue the tardy craftsmen who lag behind their duty in this work of beneficence. He calls to labor thus earnestly:

Our great aim in establishing the Orphan Asylum was to relieve the poor unfortunate orphans of the State, and the greater the number we make interested in that work the more effectually will our aim be consummated. Would that others, with the means, could be influenced to establish such homes of refuge and protection, and that such manifestations could be made as to compel the State to do what the Constitution requires—(see sec. 8, art. xi, State Constitution,)—establish homes of refuge for the indigent orphans of the State. We must not relax our efforts in the great work—it must be carried on. Our obligation as Masons, our honor and reputation as a great benevolent Instit .tion, our love of benevolence, charity, and all the Masonic virtues, demand our continued activity in the prosecution of the work in which we have made such good beginning, and which has already been fruitful of such blessed results. Let us go forward in this great work of love until the fruits may be manifest in the establishment of like institutions by kindred societies, and until such provision may be made for the orphans in general as will enable us to care for our own household and provide for them more munificently than we are at present able to do.

It is earnestly urged upon the Grand Lodge to take such action as will in the future relieve the work of the incertitude of its support, and the benevolently disposed of much anxiety and burthen. I will not recommend any line of action, but will suggest that it is a Masonic work, and every individual Mason and Lodge is equally interested in it, and ought to share equally the burthen of its support.

The report of Superintendent Mills on the condition and necessities of the Asylum, with the action of the Grand Lodge in that behalf, fill many pages of the minutes, making it the leading topic of the proceedings. We hope the Brethren of North Carolina will arouse and determine to maintain and support this noble charity, which appeals so earnestly to their Masonic manhood for succor.

The other business transacted at this communication was of the usual routine character, confined to the necessities of the jurisdiction.

We find no Report on Correspondence. That of the R. W. Grand Secretary containing, in his appropriate remarks on the death of the late venerable John Dove of Virginia, the *only* reference to other jurisdictions.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Horace H. Munson.....Grand Master.
R. W. Donald W. Bain (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... 237
(and 3 U. D.)

Work.

Number	Initiated	360
"	Passed	341
"	Raised	337
"	Affiliated	147
"	Reinstated	32
"	Excluded for N. P. D.	532
"	Suspended	20
"	Expelled	21
"	Dimitted	176
"	Died	115
Whole number of enrolled Master Masons		8,206

NOVA SCOTIA.

We welcome New Scotland again to our table, and shall endeavor to appropriate and digest the good things sent us from Halifax in this budget for 1876.

It is a well filled volume of 260 pages, and recounts the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of NOVA SCOTIA at an Emergent Communication, held 31st August, 1875, and also at its ELEVENTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, held at Halifax, commencing June 7th and closing June 8th, A. L. 5876.

The EMERGENT COMMUNICATION was a grand display of Masonic zeal in the work assigned the "Craft" as the duty of the day and occasion—the ceremony of laying the CORNER STONE of Freemason's Hall"—and the ceremonial was well done and AMPLY exemplified. An outsider (newspaper) describing the external effects of the demonstration, says of it:

"The scene at this point, when the Masons had taken their positions, was a brilliant one."

"The whole area of the new building had been covered with substantial seats, rising tier above tier, which were now filled with the Masons' lady friends to the number of about six hundred, the youth, beauty, and fashion of the city. In front were representatives of the Army and Navy, the Dominion and Local Governments, the City Corporation, the Clergy, &c., &c., &c., with their lady friends. Below them, and near the corner stone, which hung suspended from a derrick, were the Grand Master and Officers of the Grand Lodge, wearing the brilliant regalia, rich jewels, and other emblems of their rank. Around them, within and without the lines of inclosure, were the Masons generally, to the number of nine hundred, wearing black clothing, white ties and gloves, boquets of flowers, and varied regalia—some having only the simple white lambskin or leathern apron, the 'emblem of innocence and the badge of a Mason,' and others having more showy ornamented aprons. Ouside the Masons'

circle was a great gathering of spectators, and many others filled the windows and covered the roofs of the neighboring houses."

All things proper to be done, written, or said—including a very eloquent and appropriate ORATION by the REV. BROTHER CANON TOWNSHEND, had due and timely consideration, and the "work" having been inspected by the Grand Overseer, was pronounced "PLUMB, SQUARE, and LEVEL."

THE ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

Was well attended, and included in its roll of accredited members the representatives of forty-five of the 60 Lodges entitled to representation—in addition to Grand and Past Grand Officers and Grand Representatives. M. W. Grand Master J. Wimburn Laurie having opened the Grand Lodge in Ample Form, delivered his Annual Address, which briefly but intelligently discusses and communicates the topics and occurrences claiming consideration in that jurisdiction.

We find nothing in this address suggesting comment as affecting Masonic usages, save only his views on the right (if we may so speak) to "Dimit," which we quote below, and dissent from as tending to overshadow the Lodge, by raising too high the standard of individual prerogative. He says, on this topic:

I hold that any member desiring to withdraw from a Lodge, who shall signify such desire, either personally in open Lodge or (by preference) by letter addressed to the Secretary, to be read in open Lodge, shall thereupon, provided he be in good standing and clear of all indebtedness to the Lodge, be entitled to his dimit. It will, of course, be the duty of the W. M. to ascertain, before he signs the dimit, that the Brother so withdrawing is in good Masonic standing.

To recognize the right of a Lodge to vote for the granting of a dimit, is to recognize the right to refuse it—is to recognize the power to retain a Brother affiliate against his wishes. * * * * * *

The Reports of the Grand Officers, and of the Committees, as well as the general work of the Lodge, betoken wisdom and zeal in Masonic duties which claim our interest and approval, causing us to regret that our prescribed limits, now nearly reached, force us to review very briefly these proceedings.

A very pleasant and interesting feature of the proceedings before us is the

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Presented by Brother Fraser W. Dakin, Chairman, and signed also by Brothers Henry Shaw and J. J. Stewart.

These Brethren have worked industriously and wisely, producing a

very excellent review of the proceedings of forty-eight Grand Lodges, among which the minutes of ALABAMA for 1875 are considerately noticed.

He (or they?) commends the Annual Address of M. W. Grand Master Isaiah A. Wilson, which is pronounced excellent; alludes to our finances as prosperous, and accepts the F. Committee's commendation of the "judicious economy" which had contributed to that comfortable result.

The Report of our Committee on Correspondence is too highly praised (as none should better know than this writer) in the following remarks;

(The quotation from Alabama repeats the ugly typographical error of our printer, making "*assured*" read "*assumed*," and we quote the extract to get rid of that *assumption*.)

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is a very able document, and one which fills us with envy and despair. It reviews quite thoroughly the reports of forty-three Grand Lodges, giving excellent abstracts of their proceedings and decisions. We regret that in some way or other the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick reports were not received, as a review of our proceedings by so able a Committee would have been read by us with unusual interest.

We quote a few of the closing sentences of the report, which admirably express much truth, and represent a broad Masonic charity and sentiment, alike creditable to the writer and pleasing to the reader. They say:

"We have remarked with pride and pleasure the purity of sentiment, cultivation, and intelligence which characterizes the official addresses, reports, and other deliverances contained in these volumes of Masonic lore, and we have welcomed with joy the evidences of the dignity, honor, usefulness, and rapid increase of the Fraternity, developed in the proceedings submitted to us; the gratification, too, is not lessened by the assured conviction, derived from other sources, that throughout the world the "Craft" is growing in numbers, virtue, and fame."

In reply, we would reciprocate the same sentiments, concerning the Craft in Alabama, as are represented by their interesting and valuable report.

We quote also a portion of their appropriate

CONCLUSION.

In concluding this Report, we beg to congratulate the Craft at large on the possession of an amount of talent which we believe would be looked for in vain among other and kindred institutions. That men possessing the literary attainments which these reports evince, many of them engaged in the active pursuits of life, can be found willing to devote the time necessary to a thorough review of so many thousands of pages of closely printed matter, mainly for the delectation of their brethren, is a striking proof of the vitality of our time-honored institution, as well as of the indomitable zeal and sturdy pluck of its adherents.

It is a matter for regret that these valuable and interesting papers cannot be more generally brought before the Craft and read in their entirety. Where all is so good, it is difficult to select fragments; we have, however, used our best judgment in the matter, and trust that it may meet with the approbation of our readers.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. J. Wimburn Laurie (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Benjamin Curren (D. C. L.?) (re-elected)...Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

For the Year Ended June 7, 1876.

Chartered Lodges			62
Lodges under Dispensation			6
Whole number Initiated			352
"	"	Passed	339
"	"	Raised	319
"	"	Affiliated	58
"	"	Dimitted	127
"	"	Died	43
"	"	Missing	50
"	"	Suspended for unmasonic conduct	3
"	"	Suspended for non-payment of dues	86
"	"	Reinstated of last year's suspensions	9
"	"	Master Masons enrolled	3,404

OHIO.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Ohio held its Sixty-seventh (67th) Annual Communication in the city of Columbus, commencing on the 17th and closing the 19th day of October, 1876. Present, M. W. Grand Master Chas. A. Woodward, with Grand Officers at their stations, and the Representatives of "over two hundred chartered Lodges.

The Grand Master's annual address accomplishes the purpose designed by him as thus expressed :

In accordance with the requirements of the fifth article of our By-laws, I have given a detailed statement of my official acts during the past year.

And in this long and admirable compendium of official experiences he scarcely varies a "hair's breadth" from the plumb line of action thus

prescribed. At the commencement of his address he briefly refers to the general condition of the craft as follows:

Again are we permitted to meet in Annual Grand Communication, to counsel together as to the best measures to be adopted to promote the welfare and future usefulness of our time-honored institution, and around the altar of our common Brotherhood to renew our vows and repledge our faith.

The year just passed has been one of peculiar interest. Peace and harmony have prevailed throughout our Jurisdiction. We have been favored with healthful and fruitful seasons. Our lives and health have been preserved, and we have been permitted to unite with our forty millions of people in celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of our nation's birth.

Let us, then, offer up a sacrifice of thanksgiving and praise to Him from whom these and many added blessings have come to us.

And we accept it as pleasant, though not unexpected, news from the large and intelligent population of true Masons inhabiting the Ohio "Reserves."

We note that the Grand Treasurer reports a balance in hand of over $4,000, which looks as if that department was snug and comfortable.

On the first and second days of this session the Grand Lodge tugged and struggled to solve the problem of "colored recognition," so elaborately and exhaustively discussed heretofore in that and other jurisdictions—a question BIG with the *fate* of MASONIC HARMONY and UNITY in America.

We reproduce here the Resolution to bring our readers again, *en rapport*, with the REMARKABLE *phase* this question assumed before the Grand Lodge of Ohio, viz:

Resolved, By the "Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Ohio," that this Grand body will recognize the so-called Grand Lodge of Colored Free Masons of the State of Ohio as a legitimate and independent Grand Lodge, on condition that the so-called Colored Grand Lodge shall change its constitutional title, so that it shall read as follows: "*The African Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Ohio.*" And if the said so-called Colored Grand Lodge shall accept this recognition and make the suggested change in its constitutional title, then, and in that case, upon said action being reported to the M. W. Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, under the seal of said body, then the M. W. Grand Master is hereby authorized and instructed to issue his proclamation to the subordinates to this Grand Lodge, and to the Grand Lodges throughout the world, with which we are in fraternal correspondence, recognizing the said so-called Colored Grand Lodge as an Independent Grand Lodge in the State of Ohio, under the title of "*The African Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Ohio.*"

This question deferred (at the last) until this communication came up as a special order, and was then discussed, deferred "'till to-morrow,'

and the discussion again reviewed, when a point of order was interposed as follows, (with results as quoted below from the minutes):

Bro. W. M. Cunningham, R. W. Deputy Grand Master, thereupon filed, in writing, his point of order, as follows:

"Any regulation affecting in any manner the status of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, its absolute individuality, or its superiority within its own jurisdiction, must be construed as an amendment of Article XV of the Constitution, and must be treated in the same manner as any other amendment thereto."

The Grand Master having ruled that this point of order "was not well taken," an appeal was taken from his decision, and a call was made for a vote by lodges, and by yeas and nays of grand officers.

VOTE ON THE QUESTION "SHALL THE DECISION OF THE GRAND MASTER BE SUSTAINED AS THE OPINION OF THE GRAND LODGE?"

The elected grand officers were called.

The roll of lodges were called, and votes recorded.

The M. W. Grand Master, on the announcement of the result, being a majority of votes nay over votes yea, declared that the decision of the Grand Master, on the appeal of Bro. Cunningham, was not sustained.

The vote (as we make it) was 332 ayes to 401 nays.

Thus was this grave movement checked (scotched) by a technical constitutional difficulty (interposition.)

We had noted several other subjects for remark in these interesting minutes, but are forced to forego that pleasure for the present. The Report on

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

By Bro. Jno. D. Caldwell, Chairman, is too prominent a feature in the Ohio Proceedings to be overlooked, as the fame of its author and the grave subjects so ably discussed by him therein alike indicate.

He rapidly reviews the proceedings of many American (53) Grand Lodges, giving Alabama (Proceedings of 1875) its proportion of the space allotted to these brief notices.

We have too much respect for Bro. Caldwell as an accomplished and "courteous" knight of the quill to believe that the following (questionable, both as to taste and purity of thought) "*fling*" at our report of 1875, was either well considered or deliberately uttered. Referring to our well meant simile of Masonic *legitimacy*, he says:

Alabama strikes out right. Let Ohio take her share of the responsibility. *We guess that many of the Southern States are interested in the question as to whether Northern colored men are their or our "legitimate children."* (The italics are ours).

Take it back Bro. C. and restore to us the savor of former and more chaste writings.

Bro. Caldwell in his report on Correspondence, "still harping upon my daughter," devotes 46 pages to his favorite "New-day, New duty theme"—carries the war into Africa, or rather strives to lead Africa to (the imminently deadly breach" of) war, and marshals arguments, statistics, and historical incidents in a grand *sentimental* charge against the stubborn defense of white conservatism and prudence. He has assumed command of this assault upon legitimacy, and in his eagerness to conquer the citadel of our defense has pushed his leadership to the *front*, *headless* of the "falling off by the way" of the forces which were expected to support his advance. With all due respect for his intelligence and motives, we humbly beg to suggest to Bro. C. that he has gone quite as far on this "*tack*" as a plain sailor would consider right and prudent. If "*gush*" and sentimental fiction must control in this controversy, we offer our contribution, and say:

The "color line" of American Centennial Symbolism is, and should be, "the Red, White and Blue," and if the Black is to be included let it be as a shading, introduced in *moderation* to *set-off*, rather than *cloud* the legitimate and original emblasonry of our escutcheon—wherever the negro properly belongs, in society or in Masonry, there let him go in peace and safety, with the kind wishes of all *true* friends, among whom none are *truer* or more generous than those who now deprecate and resist the injudicious efforts to push him to the front in rash pursuit of (at least) doubtful claims and privileges.

One great work Bro. Caldwell has undoubtedly accomplished, in forcing into print a mass of very interesting historical information on this and kindred theories, for which we thank him heartily.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Chas. A. Woodward, (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. John D. Caldwell, (re-elected) .....Grand Secretary.

Bro. Caldwell does not recapitulate his Lodge returns, making it extremely difficult to make up a table of Statistics, which we therefore, of necessity, omit.

OREGON.

For the first time in our two years of reportorial labor—and we may say pleasure, for the rough and rugged paths have in this as in other

masonic experiences had their incidents and ultimates of satisfaction and "exaltation"—we have the agreeable privilege of welcoming tidings from OREGON. By some strange fatality the reports from this jurisdiction have repeatedly failed to reach us, and we had almost concluded that Alabama was excluded from its roll of correspondence. We are now assured of favor, however, by the reception of a large, handsomely printed and interesting volume of minutes, giving the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of F. and A. Masons of the STATE OF OREGON, at its Twenty-seventh annual communication, held in the city of Portland, commencing Monday, June 11th, A. L. 5877.

M. W. Grand Master J. H. Kunzie, assisted by his associate Grand officers and the Representatives of fifty-seven chartered Lodges, opened the Grand Lodge in AMPLE FORM. His annual address is a very comprehensive message, one of the longest that we have read in our tour of duty as reporter. He gives a faithfully minute account of his stewardship, and with these details interblends occasional and very judicious views of masonic principles and ethics. We quote a few interesting sentences, that we may thus bring the thoughts of Oregon to Alabama minds.

* * * * * * * * *

Living faith and active benevolence are the real foundations of Freemasonry. Masters and Wardens of Lodges, keep that fact in view of your Brethren; your words and style may be rude and unpolished, but if your heart be in them they will awaken admiration and sympathy. It is generally supposed by those who do not object to masonry as a positive evil, that it is at least a harmless, charitable association; but, in truth, the real spirit of masonry is not confined to the relief of a brother's physical wants, or the preservation of his life when in peril—of which we have all heard many interesting instances—such occasions seldom occur, but every day affords opportunity to promote our brother's temporal good by lawful and honorable means; to help him by enabling him to help himself; to extend our sympathy to his troubles and our charity to his failings and imperfections; to make peace between friends; to warn one of his danger, another of his errors; to be patient, tolerant and forgiving toward all. And it is because masonry brings into exercise qualities of which all acknowledge the excellence, that it has its vitality, universality and importance. A bitter enemy of masonry, through the public press, asked, "Who has sanctioned this combination, that it thus be permitted to spread over the world and act as it liketh, at all seasons and in all places? It may exist in the government, or the seat of justice, in the jury box, in the legislature, in the army, in the navy, and even among our own family; it may plot or cabal against us; we are powerless in its meshes; they may, in spite of us, plot together against us. How insignificant is the power of the confessional when compared to this?"

It is pleasant to think that, so far as regards the diffusion of our fraternity, this anxious alarmist is perfectly right. The meshes, as he calls them, of masonry do in truth envelop the world. From New York to California, from Hong Kong to London. North and South, East and

West, everywhere, they include men of all estates and conditions, and whether you go to ask a favor from a statesman or get a horse shod by the blacksmith, you may find a "Brother of the Mystic Tie" in him you seek. So mote it ever be. Yet, we do not see and do not know that any one is a whit the worse for masonic plots and cabals. He who is a mason remembers full well upon what conditions he became one, and that a masonic lodge has never had plans for conspiracies submitted for approval. Our fraternity, powerful as it is, is so only for good. It is powerless for evil. Direct it to a good end, then every true mason will lend his aid, the arms of the fraternity will stretch over the globe to assist you, and the "meshes" of the net-work will

"Feel in each thread and live along the line."

But try to turn it to evil—the strong chain of brotherhood drops short—it ceases to infold the evil doer, while it reunites more firmly than ever around the rest. Other associations have died away in thousands in all ages, because their ends were evil or indefinite and their purposes narrow. But masonry, though cursed and denounced, ridiculed, reviled and persecuted, and, alas! too often perverted, abused, degraded and prostituted, is still founded on Truth and the immutable laws of the Sovereign Architect of the Universe, and, therefore, it is the bond of a great and powerful association, spread over the whole habitable globe, honored and protected by rulers and statesmen, and, what is of greater importance to us, cultivated and cherished by a multitude of wise and good, conscientious and honorable men.

* * * * *

The minutes indicate harmony and prosperity as prevailing among the Masonic Brotherhood throughout Oregon, and contain many interesting items that we would gladly notice in detail, but are compelled to pass with "a mere mention."

We note, as of especial interest, the able report of the committee on foreign correspondence on the death of R. W. George Frank Gouley, late Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Missouri—as well as the report of the same committee on the Grand Lodge of Cuba.

The oration of Brother J. N. Dolph, Grand Orator, is another and crowning jewel in the decorations of this volume—we wish we could reproduce it here and thus, by increasing its readers, extend the good influences of its eloquent thoughts and illustrations of the command "Sit Lux.' But we may not do so, nor can we tarry longer in Oregon than is necessary to pay our respects to Brother S. F. Chadwick, chairman of the committee on

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE,

and say that we have read his well digested report and assure him, if the succeeding Oregon reports reach us in due season hereafter, that they

shall have ample consideration and notice, which is more than our limited time and space will now permit us to accord to the proceedings of 1877.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Robert Clow.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. R. P. Earhart (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS

For the Year ending May 1, A. L. 5877.

Number of Chartered Lodges		57
"	of Lodges U. D.	1
"	of Initiations	135
"	advanced to the Degree of Fellow Craft	146
"	" to the Degree of Master Mason	155
"	Admitted	106
"	Reinstated	12
"	Dimitted	114
"	Stricken from the Roll	42
"	Suspended	6
"	Expelled	9
"	Died	27
"	Rejected	48
"	of Masons	2,384

PENNSYLVANIA.

We have at length received the "abstract of proceedings" of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania during the year 1876. For want of which when preparing our last report we were compelled to borrow from the New York proceedings that admirable deliverance of Bro. Richard Vaux, on Grand Lodge rights (ethics) and Jurisdictional Sovereignty, involving necessarily the "German Grand Lodge League," and "Prince Hall Grand Lodge" ("Colored Masonry") controversies. (See Ala. report of 1876, N. Y., pages 170-174).

The volume before us contains the minutes of *four* quarterly Communications, one held March 1st, one June 7th, another September 6th, and the fourth held December 6th, 1876. This was the business session in

which topics of finance and local administration were discussed and provided for, and we gather the following interesting figures from it.

The balance sheet of this Grand Lodge foots up $2,091,340.57, and included among its assets are the items of $1,919,126.95 REAL ESTATE, with two Charity Funds aggregating $127,987.93. Its receipts for the year are $169,451.47 and disbursements $158,314.61, giving a surplus of receipts for 1876, of 11,136.86. This looks healthy and is sound.

The Annual Grand Communication convened at Philadelphia, December 27th, 5876, "Bro. Robert Clark, Right Worshipful Grand Master, in the Chair," (as the minutes say). The Grand Master's Annual Address, which is concise and able, alludes to the finances of the Grand Lodge as in "a healthy condition," and says, further, that—

A careful consideration of the report of the Committee on Finance will show that the finances have been carefully and economically managed, and the condition of the Grand Lodge in her finances is in a prosperous state. The Loan of the Grand Lodge is now nearly ten per cent. above par in the market, which not only proves the confidence of the people, in the Fraternity, its honor and its integrity, but also indicates that the financial ability manifested in dealing with this important subject, is appreciated and understood.

He commends the action of the Grand Lodge at its quarterly Communication in adopting the following resolution recognizing the Grand Lodge of Cuba:

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania and Masonic jurisdiction thereunto belonging, hereby acknowledge the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Island of Cuba, and extends to her that true Masonic greeting as a Supreme and Sovereign Grand Lodge of the Fraternity of Free Masons, which constitutes the foundation of universal amity and intercourse between all regular Sovereign Grand Lodges of the Craft."

He issued the following edict against Canada's revolting subjects of "Ontario." We copy it to preserve in our record a very proper and forcible "general order," emanating from a jurisdiction whose acts, methods and opinions have high authority among Masons universally:

To the Worshipful Master, Officers and
Members of the various Lodges of Free and
Accepted Masons of this Jurisdiction:

GREETING:—

Whereas, It appears to us from the Masonic information received, that a body of persons styling themselves a "Grand Lodge of Ontario," in the Dominion of Canada, purporting to be a Grand Lodge of Freemasons, is now claiming to exercise the power of a duly organized Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.

Now, in order to maintain the dignity of the most Ancient and Honora-

ble Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, its landmarks and lawful authority, as well as to support the authority of all regular Grand Lodges of the Craft, We, ROBERT CLARK, RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER OF MASONS *in Pennsylvania, and Masonic jurisdiction thereunto belonging*, do hereby interdict all intercourse or Masonic communication by and between the Lodges under the authority of this so-called "Grand Lodge of Ontario," until further notice.

ROBERT CLARK,
Grand Master.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Bro. Vaux, Chairman, furnishes the report on this topic, reviewing very briefly the proceedings of 44 Grand Lodges, including Alabama, minutes of 1875. He remarks on Grand Master Wilson's address of that year, as follows:

The Grand Master's address is a plain, practical paper. It contains several decisions of interest to that jurisdiction. We quote one which is novel.

The Grand Master decides that a woman who is divorced from her husband is not a competent witness against him (he being a brother Mason) in a Masonic tribunal, as to matters or things which transpired during coverture, and could be such witness as to matters occurring subsequently to the divorce.

This report of Bro. Vaux is all too brief to satisfy our cravings for his writings, but we thank him for deliverances in other portions of these minutes notably on Grand Lodge Sovereignty, heretofore alluded to, and his resume of history bearing upon Cuban recognition, which is a very valuable paper and quite acceptable "just now."

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. (*they say* R. W.) Robert Clark.....Grand Master.
R. W. John Thomson.....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges		371
"	Initiated	1,781
"	Affiliated (1875)	424
"	Dimitted (1875)	516
"	Suspended and expelled	1,019
"	Died	472
"	Of Enrolled Master Masons (27th Dec. 1874)	38,176

QUEBEC.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of QUEBEC held an Emergent Communication, assembling July 15th, 1876, to "attend the funeral of the late M. W. Aldis Bernard, a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada," and a Mason worthy of the "AMPLE" honors thus accorded to his obsequies.

Its Seventh Annual Communication was convened in the city of Montreal on the 27th day of September, A. L. 5876.

Present, M. W. J. H. Graham, Grand Master, with a constitutional number of Lodges represented, and a large attendance of Past Masters and Past Grand Officers.

The Grand Master delivered an interesting and appropriate annual address, from which we extract some paragraphs of interest, viz:

He says of the "CRAFT" in that jurisdiction—

"The year just closed has, in general, been one of peace, harmony and prosperity within our borders and throughout the masonic world. The workmen in our temples have, with commendable zeal and fidelity, devoted themselves to their allotted tasks, so that their overseers have had but little of which to complain and much to praise; and thus we trust it may always be, so that peace may ever be within our walls and prosperity within our palaces, and that at last each one, having finished his labors, may receive the welcome plaudit from the Great Master Workman, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

And of

LODGE INCOMES AND OUTLAYS.

It seems particularly necessary that I should call the especial attention of the representatives of Lodges, in Grand Lodge assembled, to the very important subject of Lodge incomes and expenditures. All funds of the Lodge should safely and profitably be invested or deposited in savings or other banks, by the proper officers, as frequently as even a small amount is on hand; and a semi-annual or annual official report of the same be made to the Lodge; and moneys should be drawn from its funds only as needed for the relief of urgent distress, except after due consideration by the Lodge or by its officers, as prescribed by the by-laws. I fear that some Lodges are too remiss in regard to this important matter. It appears to me also that some Lodges need admonition in regard to their various expenditures. Over frequent after labor refreshment ought not to be indulged in at the expense of the Lodge, perhaps not oftener than quarterly, and should then be governed by a rigid but generous economy, and the strictest regard for the best possible promotion of social intercourse. I fear also that some Lodges are too fond of mere display in fitting up their lodge-rooms, and are sometimes actuated by a desire to emulate or outdo their older and perhaps wealthier neighbors, while something less expensive would be amply sufficient, and would leave more

funds for the great purpose of true benevolence and the more abundant relief of our brethren or their widows or orphans in distress. My brethren, think of these things.

He condemns the "Ontario" movement, but leans somewhat towards sympathy with and extenuation of the revolt (we think).

He disposes of the colored question with a few very apt remarks, as follows:

"It appears to me to be far better for the colored people themselves, for us patiently to await the more full development of their destiny on this continent. The gravest possible doubts exist in my own mind as to the regularity of any of those so-called Lodges of colored Freemasons, either in the United States or Canada, and hence if they are irregular, as I believe, no proposals for their recognition can be entertained by this or any other duly constituted Grand Lodge; the more especially as these so-called colored Grand Lodges claim to exist where regular and duly constituted and recognized Grand Lodges of Freemasons exist already. "Freemasons are of all nations, tongues, kindreds and languages," but all regular private Lodges alone have the initial and final right to decide who shall or shall not become regular members of our Fraternity, and no new regular private Lodges can be created except in the manner prescribed by the constitution, and no proposition for the recognition of any Grand Lodge should be entertained except on the basis of exclusive jurisdiction of each Grand Lodge within its prescribed and lawful territory.

Our constitutions do not require any "*fifteenth*" or other amendments to meet the wants of all people, or to conserve the just rights of all regular Lodges of Freemasons of every color."

The Grand Lodge of Quebec (like the Grand Lodge of Canada) has its "Board of General Purposes," (a very able one too,) whose duty it is, both at the Grand Communications and during recess ("all the year round"), to consider all questions affecting the interests of the "CRAFT," advise with the officers in reference thereto, and also act as a committee of reference and consultation on "jurisprudence."

With such a committee, well chosen, uniformity of legislation, and prudent action in all respects, is secured, as is the case in this Grand Body. These Brethren keep the faith "in the unity of the spirit," and in good fellowship, presenting a record very creditable to themselves and instructive to others.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. James Dunbar (of Quebec).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. J. H. Isaacson (of Montreal).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of chartered Lodges (with 4 U. D.)...	59

Work.

Number	Initiated	306
"	Passed	294
"	Raised	276
"	Affiliated	88
"	Restored	16
"	Dimitted	167
"	Suspended	58
"	Died	35
"	Of Enrolled Master Masons	2,716

RHODE ISLAND.

The proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the "STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS," for the year ending May 15th, 1876, are presented in a neatly printed and beautifully illustrated volume of over 170 pages. The pleasure of its perusal abounding, as it does, in good and enjoyable reading is somewhat dashed by our inability to transfer any of its treasures of Masonic literature to our pages; time and space alike forbidding any such extracts as would do justice to their merits.

The proceedings embrace the minutes of this Grand Lodge—

First, at a FESTIVAL COMMUNICATION, held at "Masons Hall," Thursday, June 24th, 1875, under the Presidency of M. W. G. M. Nicholas Van Slyck, and was "opened in AMPLE FORM on the ENTERED APPRENTICES DEGREE." The procession was thereupon formed and the Grand Lodge (of *Apprentices*) marched to the appointed place, escorted by 100 Sir Knights "with music and banners," and laid the corner stone of the "City Hall, Providence, Rhode Island," in due and ancient form, this being the work and duty for which this assemblage was convened. The minutes include, besides full and interesting details of the ceremony, three chaste and eloquent addresses; one by His Honor, Mayor Doyle, appropriately renewing the invitation of the city to the Grand Master to "place the corner stone" with Masonic ceremonies.

The second a "Eulogy on Masonry" by W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain Henry W. Rugg—earnest and eloquent—and the last an oration by R. W. Horatio Rogers, of *decided merit and force.* We cannot resist the temptation of quoting two paragraphs from the second of these addresses, alluding briefly to the history of this ceremonial, viz:

Two hundred years ago the corner stone of the fifth and present St. Paul's Cathedral in London, was laid. The grand and majestic structure which now rears its noble proportion above the ashes of many temples

that previously had stood upon the sacred site, was designed by Sir Christopher Wren, whose rare architectural skill was only matched by his acquirements in natural philosophy and other sciences. One of the first architects and scholars of his time, he was likewise the Grand Master of Masons, and by his hand it was, with the Craft assembled about him, and by the same ceremonies we observe to-day, that the corner stone of that wonderful building was placed.

Eighty-three years ago the corner stone of the National Capitol was laid in accordance with ancient Masonic usages. President Washington, whose name is a household word throughout our land, acted as Grand Master of Masons on that occasion, placed the corner stone, and caused the corn, the wine and the oil to be poured thereon, employing these emblems with the same significance that now attaches to their use.

A *Special Communication*, held July 3d, 1875, was followed by the Semi-annual, assembled November 15th, 1875, both devoted to the work of the Lodge.

On the 15th of May, 1876, the 86TH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION assembled. "Present, M. W. Nicholas Van Slyck, with other officers and members of the M. W. Grand Lodge."

The Grand Master's address is a long and very interesting message, and we especially commend his views, which are full and intelligent upon "Clandestine Masons" and the "Grand Lodge of Ohio," closing his remarks on the Ohio resolutions, proposing to recognize a colored Grand Lodge *within* its territory, thus:

> The Grand Lodge or the subordinate Lodges of Ohio may make as many Masons out of the negro race as it pleases, and we must and will recognize those so made as Freemasons—but we deny its power to give any Masonic vitality to any other Grand Body, it cannot delegate its jurisdiction, nor exercise it jointly with another, but must exercise it itself and for itself. We may be permitted to hope that wise counsels may govern its action.

Another corner stone ceremonial next engages the attention of the Grand Lodge, and with the formalities and ceremonies (as before), the work of laying the corner stone of the "Providence County Court House" (by request of the Legislature) is AMPLY performed. Two addresses of merit and interest were delivered on this occasion, one a eulogy on Masonry, by Rev. William N. Ackley, the other an oration by Judge John H. Stiness, after which the procession was "again formed and marched to the Hall, where "the Entered Apprentices' Lodge was closed in Ample Form." One singular and unpleasant incident we note, as divulged in the minutes of the Semi-annual Communication, where a W. M. was suspended for contempt of authority in failing to wear a "*black silk hat on the 24th June*," as *required to do by Edicts!* "Regulation."

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Nicholas Van Slyck, (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Edwin Baker, (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Working Lodges..... 31

Work.

Number	Initiated.....	138
"	Passed.....	126
"	Raised.....	130
"	Affiliated.....	128
"	Restored.....	3
"	Dimitted.....	15
"	Suspended and Expelled.....	8
"	Died.....	47
"	of Enrolled Master Masons.....	3,910

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of South Carolina reach us in a neatly printed volume of 100 pages, giving the minutes of 1876 in a style notable for clearness and system, uniform with previous reports from this jurisdiction.

June 8th, 1876, a special Communication was convened at Charleston "to lay the corner stone of the monument to be erected" * * "in this city to the memory of the defenders of Fort Moultrie." It was attended by the Grand officers, together with "Representatives and Past Masters from many of the Subordinate Lodges, and was opened in AMPLE FORM (a MASTERS LODGE? or E. A., as in RHODE ISLAND?), by M. W. Grand Master Wilmot G. De Sausure. This ceremonial was conducted with the imposing forms peculiar to the Fraternity, a large military "turn out," displayed as escort, adding to the zest and eclat of the occasion, We copy the minute of one pleasant and important historical incident of the occasion, viz:

A CENTENNIAL TROWEL.

Mr. E. T. Viett, the architect, carried the silver trowel, silver square and silver plumb. The trowel is the same one used by the Marquis La-

Fayette at the laying of the corner stone of the De Kalb Monument in Camden. The blade is of solid silver, and bears the following inscription:

Made for
Brother La Fayette,
To lay the Corner Stone of the
De Kalb Monument,
1825.

The handle is of ivory, and has attached to it a musty and aged ribbon, which is said to have been tied to it by the Marquis himself. It was originally blue, but has become gray from the effects of age.

And then—"*sans ceremonie*"—introduced the PRE-CENTENNIAL Communication of this Grand Body, which held its (100th) ONE HUNDREDTH ANNUAL assemblage in Charleston, December 12th and 13th, A. L. 5876. Present, M. W. Grand Master Wilmot G. De Saussure, and the Representatives of 160 Lodges. The Lodge having been opened in AMPLE FORM "on the third degree of Masonry," the Grand Master delivered his annual address, which is characteristically able and appropriate, is indeed a model message. We have room for only one extract, and quote the following brief narrative of the history of the

GRAND LODGE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Masonry was inaugurated in this jurisdiction by the organization of Solomon's Lodge, No 1, on 29th October, 1736. A Provincial Grand Lodge was organized certainly as early as 1737. In 1754, a new organization was made of the Provincial Grand Lodge. In 1777, the Provincial Grand Lodge declared itself the Independent Grand Lodge of the State of South Carolina. The next year will, consequently, be the Centennial year of the Independent Grand Lodge of the State of South Carolina, of which Colonel Barnard Elliott was first Grand Master. It is proper that such event be appropriately observed, and the attention of the Grand Lodge is invited to the subject. From this statement it will be seen that the present Communication could appropriately have been called the one hundred and thirty-ninth. It has, however, been preferred to number it as the ninety-ninth, dating from the organization of the Independent State Grand Lodge. As a Grand Lodge, that of South Carolina is one of the oldest, if not the oldest in America.

From the financial reports, we gather that their debt, which we have heretofore noticed as embarrassing, is steadily decreasing. Pay it off brethren, and let your "centennial" be a year of FREEDOM from that tyrant at least. The Grand Secretary, Bro. Charles Inglesby, appears very creditably in the business of this Grand Communication, as well in its matter as in the arrangement of its minutes, and one of his valuable contributions to the work is the Report on

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE,

Which (though condensed a trifle too much, we think,) lacks nothing of the vigor and excellencies of his former efforts in that department.

He reviews considerately and fraternally the proceedings of 50 fifty Grand Lodges, giving to Alabama, minutes of 1875, full space and kindly mention. Says of G. M. Wilson's address of that year:

We admire Brother Wilson's style of address. It is terse and clear, and does not indulge in any rhetorical flourishes.

He approves most of his decisions, but notes an exception to one of them as follows (and we remark here that Bro. Inglesby's opinion is concurred in by many objecting Reviewers), viz:

He decides that restoration from indefinite suspension does not restore to Lodge membership. Now it seems to us that restoration brings with it a resumption of all the rights and functions, the exercise of which had been interrupted by the sentence of suspension—in other words, the suspension having been removed, the brother is restored to the position which he occupied before the sentence had been inflicted.

Says also that—

The Committee on "Suspensions, Expulsions, and Appeals," submitted a report, in which they set out *in extenso* the charges and specifications in the cases under consideration, and two of them are by no means refined or elegant reading. As we said last year, there are cases where such publications are necessary for the information and instruction of the Craft, but where it is not necessary, we decidedly object to washing our dirty linen in public.

And thus kindly greets our first fledgeling of reportorial incubation:

The Report on Correspondence is from the pen of Brother Oliver S. Beers, and ably reviews forty-three Grand Lodges, occupying one hundred and seventy-three pages. We have read this report with pleasure and profit, and welcome Brother Beers into the corps.

Thanks, and *au revoir mon ami.*

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT,

M. W. Bro. Wilmot G. DeSaussure (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Charles Inglesby (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS,

Number of Chartered Lodges..... 180
(and 4 U. D.)

Work.

Number Degrees conferred	1,026
" Erased from Roll	333
" Dimitted	215
" Died	100
Whole number of Enrolled Master Masons	7,346

TENNESSEE.

The Sixty-third Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Tennessee convened in Nashville on Monday, the 13th of November, A. L. 5876. Present, M. W. Grand Master J. C. Cawood, who, with the assistance of the Representatives of a constitutional number of Subordinate Lodges, opened the Grand Lodge in AMPLE FORM. The Grand Master's address is short and direct, devoted almost entirely to local occurrences. We give his exordium paragraph:

Brethren of the Grand Lodge.

We meet to-day in the unsullied atmosphere of universal benevolence, and into the ocean of the great heart of Masonry hundreds of clear streams and rivulets of harmony and fraternal affection continue to flow. Time writes no lineaments of decay upon the brow of the time-honored principles which vitalize our associations. In this the hundredth year of American Independence—one of as much, or perhaps more, historic significance as any which has preceded it—amidst the strife and confusion so peculiar to our American institutions in political contests, it affords a field of the greatest gratitude to see that the Fraternity have preserved that mental equipoise which characterizes the true Craftsman, and throughout this Grand Jurisdiction harmony and brotherly love prevail, and a degree of prosperity commensurate with the stringency of the times marks the efforts of the Brotherhood. While we meet to take counsel together for our mutual edification and the prosperity of the Order the world over, it is meet that our hearts should be replete with praises and thanksgiving to the great Author of our being.

And also his allusion to Alabama's refusal to reciprocate the convenience of "*crossing the border*" for working material, etc., viz:

I received a communication from the W. M. of McCallum Lodge No. 350, dated Nov. 17, 1875, from which I learned that McCallum Lodge had been making Masons of citizens living in Alabama, near the State line, and that Lodges in Alabama were complaining at a violation of courtesy. I at once addressed a note to the M. W. Grand Master of Alabama, Brother P. J. Pillans, who informed me that the Grand Lodge of Alabama had never granted us the privilege of making Masons of citizens of Alabama, and kindly sent me a copy of the regulations of the Grand Lodge upon that subject. I at once addressed an order to McCallum Lodge to desist from any farther violations of courtesy.

The Committee on Jurisprudence reporting upon this portion of Grand Master's address, say:

They approve of the action of the M. W. Grand Master as to the Lodges adjoining the Jurisdiction of Alabama; and, as our sister Grand Lodge in Alabama does not deem it expedient to extend the same privilege to us that we would extend to them, as mentioned in Edict 5, we would recommend that no privilege be granted to the Lodges in Alabama to receive petitions from residents in Tennessee, near the Jurisdiction of said State, for initiation or advancement; and that the Lodges in Tennessee near the Jurisdiction of Alabama are prohibited from receiving any petition from the residents of Alabama for like purpose.

The business of the communication was confined mainly to local and routine work, to which diligent attention having been given, its labors closed Nov. 15th, P. M., 1876.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. E. Edmundson (Pulaski).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. John Frizzell (Nashville).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... 396
and 8 U. D.

Work.

Number	Initiated	693
"	Passed	635
"	Raised	658
"	Affiliated	414
"	Restored	97
"	Dimitted	870
"	Dropped from Roll	455
"	Suspended and Expelled	393
"	Died	249
Whole number of Enrolled Master Masons		18,635

TEXAS.

The minutes of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Texas at its (41) Forty-first Grand Annual Communication, convened in Houston Thursday, December the 14th, A. L. 5876, are before us and indicate one

of those ordinary but useful and necessary sessions where good work is done and good results follow.

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form, "a constitutional number being represented," by M. W. Grand Master Marcus F. Mott, whose annual address is long, but interesting, and well calculated to promote the good of Masonry wherever read and heeded.

He explains thus the change of date of meetings from June to December:

BRETHREN—You have assembled just six months from your last Communication, in compliance with a constitutional amendment fixing the time of meeting at the second Thursday in December of each year; and to-day you open the Forty-first Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Texas. It seems to me peculiarly appropriate that the annual assembling of the Grand Lodge should be at the close of the year. Crops have been harvested, the business of the season brought to a close, and we can rest awhile from our secular labors to devote time and attention to the interests of Masonry, untrammeled by the distracting cares of business pursuits. The harvester and husbandman have reaped the results of their hardy toil, and laid away the rich fruits of the earth, earned by their skill and labor. As they have sown, so have they reaped.

He says:

The tendency to multiply Lodges, and the weakness and inefficiency of many now upon our rolls, have been so constantly called to your attention by my distinguished predecessors, it would be reiterating "a thrice told tale" for me to dwell upon the subject. I appreciate fully all that they have so well said. The officers who are invested with the power of granting Dispensations can somewhat lessen the evil by keeping themselves within the letter and spirit of the Constitution and laws, and carefully informing themselves of the merits of each case as the same is presented.

He speaks of one case of insubordination where a Lodge appointed a committee "to consider of the action of the Grand Lodge in creating the office of Grand Lecturer, and to prepare a written remonstrance asking a repeal of the edict, and requesting the other Lodges to join in the remonstrance."

And a circular of this character having been issued and circulated among the Lodges, contrary to the remonstrance or prohibition of the District D. G. Master, discipline was enforced and the charter of the offending Lodge suspended.

The Grand Master was compelled to "toe the mark," and "hew to the line" of ancient rule in one important decision, (the only one that he reports), thus:

Question.—"Does the loss of the first toe of the right foot disqualify an applicant from being made a Mason?

Answer.—It does.

In regard to the physical qualifications of a candidate, I know of but one safe rule to follow. The candidate must be without maim or blemish. In other words, he must be sound in mind and member.

In the ancient charges, it is said that no master should take an apprentice unless he has sufficient employment for him, and unless he be a perfect youth, having no maim or defect in his body. To adopt any other rule than this would be to leave the question of physical qualification to the discretion of the Masters of Lodges. Each would judge for himself to what extent the candidate was qualified, and perhaps no two would determine the question exactly alike. If the rule is to be relaxed, and the general idea promulgated that the candidate must be possessed of only such physical qualifications as will enable him to make himself known, no one but the Master, under whose control the work is performed, can determine the question. It might seem to one that a one-eyed man is capable, to another that a man with a cork leg is eligible, and so on almost through the entire category of physical defects. I am aware that for some years after the war a strong effort was made to relax the ancient rule, and in some instances the effort was successful. It had its origin in the generous sentiment which prompted brethren to bestow upon the disabled soldier, who bore the scars of honorable battle, the benefits of the mystic tie, and in many cases the appeal was irresistible. Calm reflection, however, is illustrating the mistake of ever having permitted principle to be sacrificed to the dictates of expediency or sentiment, and Grand Bodies are gradually drifting back to the safe anchorage of the ancient regulations and usages.

A very proper decision, and very appropriately defended.

The following resolution, *unanimously* adopted, cancels a premature and very unwise act of the last session, and rights the wrong done to Canada, and to the principle of Grand Lodge sovereignty as well, viz.:

Resolved, That the resolution extending fraternal greeting to and asking intimate intercourse and acquaintance with the Grand Lodge of Ontario, passed by this Grand Lodge in June, A. L. 5876, found on page 46 of the printed proceedings, be and the same is hereby repealed.

Texas had in gold, silver, and currency, a large balance in her Treasury, which, when we first reached the figures, appeared as a peculiar mark of prosperity, but, on inquiry, it is found to be only a cash asset, about to be absorbed by over-balancing liabilities, as the following report attests:

I herewith submit my annual report of money received and disbursed since your Communication in June. The amounts received, including the balance then on hand, amounts to $20,444 62, and there have been paid out, on proper vouchers submitted, $6,085 61, leaving in the Treasury $14,359, subject to count of such committee as may be designated.

The funds now on hand will permit the payment of that portion of the debt due to M. M. Crews, and all interest due on the Anderson debt.

I also append a statement of the funds received for Texas Masonic Orphans' Home, showing amount now in my hands, $179 41.

Fraternally submitted,

BENJ. A. BOTTS,
Grand Treasurer.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Is reported upon by Brother E. H. Cushing, Chairman, who reviews with appropriate comment the proceedings of (only) eighteen Grand Lodges, all, we presume, that had reached him in the half year elapsed since his report of June, 1876.

Alabama for 1876 should have reached him in time for this report,* but, from some cause, is not included, and we will wait for the next review for the satisfaction of hearing from Brother C. on that document, and we reserve ourselves for that pleasantly anticipated occasion.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Marcus F. Mott (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. George H. Bringhurst (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

UTAH.

The Fifth Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Utah assembled in Salt Lake City on Tuesday, the 14th day of November, A. L. 5876, and we have before us the proceedings thereof in a neatly printed volume of well arranged and interesting minutes.

A quorum having answered to roll call, the M. W. Grand Master opened the Grand Lodge in AMPLE FORM.

A petition, from the Lodges interested, to the Grand Lodge to dedicate their new Hall, was received, and, in compliance with its request, the Grand Lodge "performed the ceremonies of dedication agreeable to the ANCIENT FORMULA." Following the ceremony, we note the delivery of an ORATION by the R. W. Grand Orator, Brother Frank Tilford, which is printed in the minutes, and is well worthy of that honor, for it is really an instructive, eloquent, and enjoyable deliverance.

This duty performed, the Grand Lodge proceeded with its regular routine of labor; and Grand Master Edmund P. Johnson gave an account of his Stewardship in a very comprehensive and able Annual Address, discussing under appropriate headings the following subjects:

LODGES OF SORROW—Commending the custom.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP—Advising its adoption by the Lodges through By-laws providing for *one large* (*say* $100 00) *contribution* instead of annual *dues*, to constitute life membership, when desired by the member disposed to purchase such privilege.

MASONIC ANNIVERSARIES—Recommending their observance and improvement as occasions for enjoyment and instruction.

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*Impossible. Alabama for 1876 was only ten days before Texas for 1876. Our esteemed Bro. Beers, usually so correct, has overlooked the dates.—GRAND SECRETARY.

"Colored Lodges"—Opposing the Ohio resolutions of 1876 as in conflict with the established doctrine of exclusive territorial jurisdiction; yet he is not unfriendly to colored men, and opposes the introduction of the "color line" as a Masonic test.

Masonic Displays—He condemns as opposed to the quiet and unostentatious mission of Masonry.

Commends the Report on Foreign Correspondence of Brother Diehl, and very properly, too, we think, urges the claims of the Grand Lodge Library (another of Brother D.'s good works); and declares, as we do, that Masonry is a Religion, and says on this subject (we quote only a *part* of his remarks):

Religion is defined to be, "Any system of faith and worship." The religion of Masonry is a trust in, and the worship of, Almighty God, the Creator of the Universe, who controls the destinies of all created beings. This much being accepted, we have nothing to do with particular creeds and dogmas. Let each individual Mason hold his own views as to what beliefs and actions are necessary to his eternal salvation. A living faith in God, a full sense of individual responsibility to Him, and a life of virtue and morality, is what Masonry requires of its votaries. All else is left to the individual consciences of the Brethren. That is the religion of Masonry; and he who does not subscribe to it, casts aside the teachings and ground work of the Institution. We need more religion instead of less. Let us cultivate the broad, true spirit which recognizes the one All-Father, and the direct personal responsibility of each one of His creatures. When that spirit is attained and controls, let the individual seek his home in that Church or belief that is best adapted to his mind and commends itself to his judgment; with his action in that regard Masonry has nothing to do, so long as the teachings and practices of that faith or institution are not subversive of the principles of virtue and morality, and are not inconsistent with a due obedience to legally constituted authorities, and a proper subordination to the laws of the country in which we live. Actuated by these sentiments, and united by the bonds of fraternal love, we can heartily exclaim with the poet:

> "Maker and High Priest,
> I ask thee not my joys to multiply,
> Only to make me worthier of those I have."

He discusses several other topics very intelligently, but we must, for want of space, desist from further comment on the address.

Brother Grand Secretary Diehl, in his Annual Report, we regret to see, announces a *decrease* of members, and says in that regard:

This decrease is owing to different causes. The depressed financial condition of our common country, more especially in our immediate home, Utah, has something to do with it, it is true. The law passed last Session giving Lodges the power to suspend members for non-payment of dues without trial, is another cause. But looking upon the matter as thinking and observing men should, it will be ascertained that the main cause lies altogether in another direction; in a direction useless for me to

mention here, as it is too well known and understood by every member of this Grand Body. Many buckets of water will flow down Jordan river into the Great Salt Lake before your Grand Secretary will be able to report one thousand members on the roll book of this Grand Lodge. But this should not discourage us; on the contrary, it should inspire us to stand with renewed vigor and energy at the helm of our little ship, and if we should not see it anchored in a secure harbor, what of it?—our children surely will.

We "have a curiosity" to know what that *one* "*main cause*," which "lies altogether in another direction," is—will Brother D. explain—or decide "the point not well taken"—and refuse to give us "*direction*."

Finances easy—Grand Library prospering—"Ontario" repudiated, and intercourse with her forbidden, are notes that we made when reading these proceedings, which we now repeat as first written, having no time to enlarge on the points.

Brother Christopher Diehl is a model Secretary and a "man of all work." He represents three distinct characters (departments) and works *in all three of the degrees at once.* He is Grand Secretary, Grand Librarian and Reporter on Correspondence, the latter being we think (and if we may so speak) his *chef-d'œuvre.* We like his report on correspondence, and concur in the Grand Master's praise when he says of it and its predecessors, in his annual address:

"We can look with pride on the reports heretofore given to our Grand Lodge. Our chairman, with zeal, has laboriously compiled and condensed matters of interest with judgment, and his comments are such as might be expected from his varied reading and cultivated literary taste.

This report under consideration is a characteristic review of the proceedings of fifty Grand Lodges,, among which Alabama for 1875 appears, and has due consideration. We thank him for a kind and encouraging notice.

Under the head of "COLOR QUESTION and COLORED MASONRY," he expresses himself quite forcibly and wisely on the OHIO RESOLUTIONS, viz:

"At the present writing we do not know what the final action of the Grand Lodge of Ohio will be, neither do we know the opinion of the members in our own household, and we do not consider it within our province to advise them what side to choose. Let every one read, study, and then choose for himself. We personally stand firm in our own honest conviction that only one Grand Lodge can legally exist within a certain State, Territory or Province, and that conviction will go with us to our grave. European Masons claim this to be an American law, not to be found in any of the ancient regulations. Be it so; but it has worked like a charm for many years on American soil, and among the masonic family in America has preserved peace and harmony. Destroy that law known as the American Masonic Monroe Doctrine, and an endless chaos will ensue. If Utah masons glance only for a moment at their own situa-

tion, and consider the trouble, confusion and vexation that would arise at their own home should the doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge jurisdiction be swept from the American continent, they can not long hesitate, and will readily decide their side of the scale. Self-preservation is the first law of nature, and a word to the wise is sufficient.

We believe in the universality of Free Masonry, and the question of race or color can not disturb that belief. Before our sacred altar all masons are equal; may their skin be white, black or yellow, our hand is open to each and all for a brotherly grasp. But they must have been made masons in a regular Lodge of such, and must have passed through the same door as we have. Such being the ancient law, we must submit to it no matter how our sympathetic heart pleads for the colored race. The Grand Lodge of Ohio should have proposed another plan to bring the man of color within the fold of legitimate Free Masonry. As it is, we respectfully dissent from its proposition."

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Joseph Milton Orr.....Grand Master.
R. W. Christopher Diehl (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... 6

Work.

Number	Initiated	21
"	Passed	23
"	Raised	28
"	Affiliated	12
"	Reinstated	1
"	Dimitted	32
"	Died	3
"	Suspended	30
"	Of Enrolled Master Masons	341

VERMONT.

After a long, but not *weary*, ramble through the fruitful fields of Masonic literature which have lured us to taste and extract their sweetness at every step of this (*too*) long Report, we have at length reached the GREEN MOUNTAIN STATE, famed for its hardy and substantial products, whether of *man*, of *material*, or of *thought* and *principle*. *We* are not tired of writing, but our Printers and good Brother Sayre, our worthy and

patient Grand Secretary, are both waiting upon us and urging speed; so that of necessity "this (mortal long) Review must put on its" desirable *nether* garment of "*conclusion*" in all haste, to the neglect, almost, of Vermont, Virginia, "*et al*" of reports yet to be considered and reported upon.

At Burlington, June 15th, A. L. 5876, the M. W. Grand Lodge of Vermont convened in Annual Communication. Present, Nathan P. Bowen, Grand Master, and a quorum of Representatives of constituent Lodges.

We like the Grand Master's annual address, which is *very good indeed*. We quote from his exordium, which is a truthful as well as eloquently expressed Eulogy, viz:

* * * * *

The great objects of masonry are to spread the light of science and of useful knowledge, to kindle and diffuse the flow of sympathy and love, and to promote the interest of morality. These are some of the lessons that have been taught us by the eminent and distinguished fathers of the craft in this goodly land of ours—men whose names when heard seldom fail to impress the American people with noble thoughts and aspirations! Men whose illustrious deeds stand prominent as beacon lights in our nation's history. Such are the names of Washington, Warren, Putnam, Randolph, Lafayette, and a host of others who, as patriot masons, in public and private life have left the impress of their character and exerted a moulding influence upon the institutions under which we live and enjoy a free republic.

During these hundred years Ignorance has often led the hosts of Prejudice, Bigotry and Superstition in fierce assault upon our institution. Bitterly has the fair fame of masonry been traduced. The tyrant's hand has been thrust forth to overturn the stately edifice; but the Temple whose foundations stand upon the rock of eternal truth and justice survives, and its glorious principles continue to be inculcated within its sacred walls. Since the birth of this young nation, freedom has been advanced and many noble deeds of courage, benevolence and mercy been performed in the name of masonry. May we not, my brethren, assume with propriety that to the benign influences of our institution our nation to-day is indebted for some, at least, of the progress which enables it in this centennial year to take its stand among the family of nations as the peer of the proudest of them all. Long may it remain so, and may masonry and free government continue to work in harmony together to further the advancement of science, and hasten the approach to that period when

"Man to man, the world o'er
Shall brothers be for a' that."

The time is rapidly approaching when the nations shall be brought into nearer or closer relations with each other, when a larger degree of international comity shall exist, and when state differences shall be settled by peaceful arbitration. Many influences are contributing to bring

about this result. The great inventions of science which so nearly annihilate time and space, and enable the citizen and craftsman of one nation to visit almost any other in a few days or weeks at the most, the rapid increase of trade and commerce creating mutual dependencies and mutual interests; the spread of a common religion embracing so many of the nations of the earth, and the diffusion of learning among the masses, are each helping on the world's progress. But not the least among these agencies, my brethren, that are at work to hasten on the time of international peace and good will among men, is to be reckoned masonry.

* * * * *

We also quote his decisions, as follows—remarking that No. 1 is in conflict with N. Y. rulings, and No. 5 with those of Alabama:

1.

QUESTION.—Has a Lodge a right to grant a conditional dimit, the condition being that it shall take effect when the brother joins another Lodge?

ANSWER. No.—Englesby 1866, '67, Hall 1870.

2.

In balloting for a candidate only one black ball is cast, the person casting it has a right to waive the privilege of secrecy and at the same time avow his vote in open lodge without being required to give his reasons. The lodge is bound to presume he did it for good and sufficient reasons. Such brother is not liable for unmasonic conduct unless he should avow an unworthy motive for so doing.

3.

A petition for restoration from the sentence of suspension for nonpayment of dues, if rejected, is entitled to have the sum which accompanied his petition refunded.

4.

A dimit is not lawful evidence that the person presenting it is a Mason. This should be determined by the ordinary methods by which a person is proved to be a Mason.

5.

When on appeal the proceedings and sentence of a subordinate Lodge is reversed for illegality in the trial and sentence, the brother is thereby reinstated in all the rights and privileges which he had before the trial, *including membership.*

6.

QUESTION.—In case charity is bestowed by a Lodge or a member upon a member of another Lodge to which he belongs, can they be compelled to re-imburse it?

ANSWER.—No. Charity in all cases must be voluntary, not compulsory. While charity is a Masonic duty the Lodge or brother bestowing it must be the judge of that duty.

The session was a busy one, occupying two days, and the reports of Grand officers all indicate the healthful and harmonious condition of the Craft in that jurisdiction.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

is represented by a very useful and able report from Bro. HENRY CLARK, Grand Secretary and Chairman, reviewing with judgment, good taste, and fraternal suaviter, the proceedings of most of the AMERICAN and several FOREIGN GRAND LODGES. The minutes of Alabama—report of 1875—are elaborately reviewed. We thank him for the kind words, too flattering, we fear, with which he welcomes and compliments *our* report of that year, and for a just appreciation of our Grand Lodge.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Henry H. Smith.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Henry Clark (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... 100

Work.

Number	Initiated	267
"	Affiliated	72
"	Reinstated	30
"	Dimitted	37
"	Expelled	2
"	Suspended	12
"	Died	84
"	Of Enrolled Master Masons	8,169

VIRGINIA.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge "of ANCIENT YORK of Virginia," assembled in Annual Convention, in the city of Richmond, on Monday, December 11th, A. L. 5876. Present, M. W. Grand Master William R. Taliaferro, with all Grand officers in stations, the representatives of 132 Subordinate Lodges, and many Past Grand and Past Masters; opened in AMPLE FORM; the Grand Lodge was addressed by the Most Worshipful

in a long and very able message, discoursing many topics of general as well as of local interest.

Virginia mourns the loss, by death, of those whose fame, as wise, accomplished, and devoted Masons had extended beyond the borders of their own State, and in the instance of their *revered* and noble Grand Secretary, the late R. W. JOHN DOVE, had become the property of the Masonic world, for HE was loved, honored, and is now lamented by the Fraternity wherever found, either organized or "dispersed." "Take him for all and in all," we ne'er shall look upon his like again. The Grand Master burdened with the sorrow which had invaded their jurisdiction, commences his address with an appropriate allusion to the dead, which we quote as follows:

Brethren of the Grand Lodge:

The Angel of Death, since our last Annual Communication, has invaded and smitten our household. Three great and shining lights that for many years have shed around us the lustre of Masonic intelligence, and of every manly virtue, have been extinguished, and have disappeared from our eyes forever.

Our Grand Lecturer, our Grand Treasurer, and our venerable Grand Secretary, have in turn passed beyond the portals of this earthly tabernacle, and have entered the everlasting doors of the Supreme Grand Lodge above.

In this hour of bereavement and sorrow, it is our duty, after first recognizing and humbly professing our submission to that divine will which ordered this afflicting dispensation, and after returning thanks to the Almighty Dispenser of events, for that providence which has spared us to re-assemble for the fresh discharge of our annual labors, to pay the tribute of our affection to the memory of our departed brethren by solemnly recording a memorial of their virtues and Masonic services, and of that profound respect and veneration we entertained for them in their lives, and which will keep their memories green and fresh forever in our hearts. To this end, I have appointed committees, charged with the duty of reporting to you sketches of their lives and characters, and such resolutions as you would desire to spread upon our records.

The oldest among us is not old enough in Masonry to recall the period when any other than one honored form occupied the chair of Grand Secretary. No past Grand Master lives among us who was proclaimed as Grand Master, upon the occasion of his election, by other than one Grand Secretary: no neophyte for fifty years, but who, upon his admission to our Institution, looked upon the author of the Virginia Text-book as the embodiment of all that could be known or taught in Masonry; and none, who, when they have in time become the sages and teachers of the Craft, but have recognized, not only the lore and learning which distinguished him, but that through a life far exceeding that of most men, he had daily illustrated and exemplified the beautiful tenets and teachings of our profession.

The intelligence of the death of the oldest Grand Secretary in the world, will be received throughout the confines of Masonry with profound

sensation, and I am pleased to inform yon that already I have received from the highest authorities of other jurisdictions, the assurances of condolence and sympathy.

The Grand Treasurer, though not so well known beyond our limits, was yet widely known and sincerely honored within our own jurisdiction. For the fourth of a century the members of this body have been gladdened at their annual re-unions by his genial and hearty salutations, and they have recognized, by his successive re-elections for so long a period, their high estimation of his exemplary life, and of his high character as a faithful officer.

The Grand Lecturer, but for a few years past charged with the important duty of receiving, retaining and transmitting the unwritten formulas and secret ritual of our ceremonies, brought to the execution of his laborious trust, a strong mind, a retentive memory, a severe application, and an exactitude of expression, which could be alone attained by a rare zeal and love for the Institution. He was without an equal in his place, and his life was as pure and exemplary as his work was exact and perfect.

The proceedings of this communication, continued through Wednesday, the 13th of December, were conducted in harmony, and the business, nearly all of which was of ordinary routine work, except the interesting obituary reports from committees, (appointed by the Grand Master as stated in his address,) was dispatched in true Virginia style; by this we mean with the industry, wisdom and intelligence characteristic of this old and respected organization.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Richard Parker.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. William B. Isaacs (late Deputy).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... 229
(With 3 U. D.)

"Work" not reported.

Number	Suspended	207
"	Expelled	7
"	Died	109
"	Reinstated	23
"	of Enrolled Master Masons	8,992

WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

The neat little pamphlet before us gives a methodical and interesting report of the proceedings of

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Washington, at its Nineteenth Annual Communication, held in the city of Olympia, Wednesday, September 27th, A. L. 5876. The Grand Master, by necessity, the R. W. Deputy Grand Master presided and opened the Grand Lodge "in due form."

The R. W. Grand Secretary read the annual address of M. W. Thomas T. Taylor, Grand Master, (absent) which gives a clear, business like statement of the transactions of the year. One melancholy incident—the loss of the steam ship Pacific—of which he says "Washington Territory never suffered, at one sudden stroke, greater loss," is described in thrilling terms, and appropriate allusion is made to the loss of Masonic Brethren by that terrible calamity, and we regret to note that many of the Fraternity perished in that disaster and were "buried beneath the wave."

The minutes of Washington show a healthy and moderately prosperous condition of affairs in that jurisdiction, though the Grand Secretary, as those useful officers will and must do sometimes, complains of errors, omissions and other neglects of Lodge Secretaries. He admits, however, all we claim, in saying:

The general growth in membership in the existing Lodges has been proportionably less than usual. It is pleasing, however, to note that, in the main, harmony prevails and a hearty and zealous masonic spirit is maintained throughout the Jurisdiction.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Bro. Thos. M. Reed, (G. S.) for the Committee, thus explains the "situation" in that department:

In the various "Reviews" presented by committees on Foreign Correspondence, our Grand Lodge proceedings receive favorable mention. The "matter and form" of our reports and our doings are seldom subjects of unfair or unjust criticism. For while our manner of doing things may not in all respects be suited to the tastes and peculiar notions of others, our proceedings in matters of general Masonic interest appear "fair in proportions," and not unfrequently evoke commendation. Expressions of regret at the absence of a full and detailed report from this Committee are many and frequent. For the information of our brethren of the "Reportorial Corps," and others, we again "rise to explain" at the hazard of going beyond the line of our duty,—that this Grand Lodge is not unappreciative of the value of these reports. Our resources being quite limited, will scarcely justify the necessary expenditure in printing such reports at present. The Committee feel a deep and abiding interest

in all matters Masonic, and it is quite natural that they should often be impressed with a strong inclination to offer an opinion, or to give a reason for the faith that is in them touching many interesting subjects agitating the Masonic world, as well as to lay those subjects before our Grand Lodge for its information; but for the time being, perhaps, 'tis best as it is. Making our modest bow for the many flattering notices of our former efforts we herewith present our table of American Grand Lodges, compiled from latest annual reports received.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Platt Adams Preston.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Thomas M. Reed (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges	20

Work.

Number Initiated	58
" Passed	56
" Raised	58
" Affiliated	38
" Reinstated	7
" Dimitted	49
" Suspended	29
" Expelled	1
" Died	11
" Enrolled Master Masons	720

WEST VIRGINIA,

Is again a welcome visitor, and we with pleasure acknowledge receipt of her Twelfth (12th) GRAND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, convened at Wheeling, Tuesday, November 14th, A. L. 5876. Present, M. W. Grand Master Kiphart D. Walker, all Grand Officers, and the Representatives of of 66 (of the 72) subordinate Lodges. The pamphlet, dressed with COVERS that are "deeply, darkly" (but not) "*beautifully* blue," reporting these proceedings, gives us very good and very acceptable tidings from this youngest daughter of Virginia, that fruitful "mother of States and Statesmen," and equally famed for her masonic *deliverances*.

The annual address of M. W. Grand Master Walker is an interesting

message, and from it we shall extract most of the information we desire or have time to communicate to our readers. He says; greeting—

Brethren of the Grand Lodge of West Virginia:

I take great pleasure in welcoming you to our Annual Communication, and fraternally hope that the year that has passed since we last assembled in Grand Lodge has been for each one of you productive of much good, both as pertains to this life and that which is to come. I have no words of eloquence with which to portray at this time the moral excellencies of our beloved fraternity, or to impress upon your minds a due sense of the duties and dignity of Free Masons. To inculcate the excellent tenets of our institution is a part of regular masonic work, which I trust no one of you has neglected to perform in his individual Lodge, and I may, therefore, omit further reference to these things at this time and in this presence, and proceed at once to render you a report of my official conduct during the year that is past.

As regards the general condition of the Masonic Fraternity in West Virginia, I may safely report that it exhibits a healthy prosperity, and is accomplishing good results. There are, of course, individual cases in which the principles of Free Masonry have failed to exert their legitimate influence upon the lives and consciences of those who should be brethren, and in a few cases the moral tone and atmosphere of a Lodge has been impaired or vitiated by some lack of that concord and amity and mutual forbearance which are the foundation stones of our temple; but these are to be found in every human institution, and will probably continue to exist, in spite of "line upon line and precept upon precept." The general condition of the fraternity is, however, a legitimate subject of congratulation for the good it is accomplishing in the present, and of hope for what it may yet do.

Some one "raised the Devil" question, and the Grand Master thus properly "*rebukes* SATAN" as a "*clandestine*" intruder:

"Is a person who does not believe in a Devil, a proper candidate for the mysteries of Freemasonry?

Answer—Masonry only requires a belief in God as the Supreme Architect of the Universe. The Devil is a personage with whom we have nothing at all to do, and it does not matter whether he believes in one devil, seven devils, or no devil at all.

His decisions (not numerous) are all good, but relate to questions of no special interest to the general reader.

He discusses and deprecates the agitation produced by the Ohio "new departure," in the "COLORED" direction, and we quote a remark indicative of his views on that subject, viz:

"With surprising unanimity the Grand Lodges of the United States, from Maine to California and the Gulf, have united in protesting against the grave departure from masonic landmarks and obligations proposed by the brethren in Ohio. A history of the organization of colored men in Ohio and elsewhere, claiming to be Freemasons, leads inevitably to the conclusion that their Lodges are clandestine in every masonic signification of the term. We can have no masonic communication or conversa-

tion with them, except in violation of our obligations and of the well-established theories of Grand Lodge government. We can not sit in their Lodges nor they in ours; nor, so far as I can see, have they any more claims upon us for recognition than a Farmer's Grange or the Cavaliers of the Golden Balloon, or the Devotees of the Wooden Corkscrew, or any other such associations."

True, and well said!

The Work of the Lodge, including the able reports of its District Deputy Grand Masters and of its intelligent as well as industrious, "regular" and "special Committees," was well and properly done, and the proceedings illustrate the harmony and prosperity of the Craft represented in this organization.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

We have a *short* report on this topic from Brother O. S. Long (G. S.) (we wish this O. S. could be as *short* as the LONG of *those initials*), calling attention only to a few subjects of general interest and recommending the recognition of the new Grand Lodges of "The Indian Territory," "Manitoba," "Prince Edwards Island" and "Dakota;" and repudiating the Ontario claim to recognition—all of which was, by the Grand Lodge, "accordingly so done."

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Brother G. W. Atkinson (Charleston).....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother O. S. Long (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... 76

Work.

Number	Initiated	270
"	Passed	266
"	Raised	270
"	Affiliated	90
"	Reinstated	40
"	Dimitted	117
"	Suspended	108
"	Expelled	7
"	Died	34
"	of Enrolled Master Masons	3,431

WYOMING,

Name of sweet sound, awakening thrilling memories in its association alike with HISTORY and ROMANCE. We greet with renewed welcome this second visit from our sister of Wyoming, made in *due form* through her representative pamphlet, dressed in perfect taste (*ala* TONN), and containing the Proceedings of her SECOND ANNUAL GRAND COMMUNICATION, held at CHEYENNE October the 10th, A. L. 5876—Grand Master EDGAR P. SNOW presiding.

The well arranged minutes before us demonstrate the taste of Brother Grand Secretary, as well as the prosperous and satisfactory condition of Masonic "work and ways" in that new and far-off jurisdiction, and we congratulate the Brethren of Wyoming on their growth and success.

The Grand Master's Annual Address very appropriately and wisely discusses the local and general topics demanding consideration.

He says, speaking of the Ohio "New day New duty" overture:

At the Annual Communication of that Grand Body, last October, a special committee was appointed, who reported favorably on a proposition to admit a number of undeniably clandestine organizations, and to divide the jurisdiction of the State with such irregular bodies. The object of the promoters of this undertaking seems to ignore all the laws and usages of Masonry, and to break down the only possible safeguard for our continued existence—not because their proteges are better men, or Masons, but simply because of their color.

This is not, in my opinion, the question of "The Negro," but of "The Perpetuity of Masonry in America." The negro problem can be solved in a legitimate manner, without violating any of the landmarks, laws, or usages of the Craft by the "resolving" process recommended by our Brethren in Ohio.

The work of the session, limited to ordinary and useful routine duties, was conducted in harmony, with industrious application to "business."

A very appropriate report on

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Was made by Brother John K. Jeffrey, in which he reviews, briefly and judiciously, the Proceedings of forty Grand Lodges, giving due notice to those of Alabama for 1875. Brother Jeffrey, we observe, omits Alabama from the list of Grand Lodges noted as having "formally recognized the Grand Lodge of Wyoming." If this be so, it is a sin of *omission*, for which, we fear, our Committee on Correspondence is responsible, and we promise that that which has already, essentially and in intention, been done, shall speedily appear in *due form* upon our minutes *as* done.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Brother Frederic E. Addoms.....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother William G. Tonn.....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... 4

Work.

Number	Initiated	25
"	Passed	22
"	Raised	27
"	Affiliated	10
"	Dimitted	8
"	Died	2
"	Expelled and stricken from roll	2
"	of Enrolled Master Masons	255

IN CONCLUSION,

We have little more to say. The work assigned us is done. The Report has reached its full (and, we fear, prosy) length, aided by the impulses given and renewed to its author by repeated stimulants derived from the rich Masonic viands spread out, in tempting luxuriance, in the reports reviewed in alphabetical sequence herein. If *too* long, reader, remember our temptation, and then "let him who is without sin, cast the first (critical) stone."

We have had *one* great object in view in these reports (*three*) "above and beyond" the limited duty (superficially considered) of the Correspondent; which, possibly, the careful reader may have discovered and appreciated. We have attemptod therein to combine the duties of the critic with those of the purveyor and recorder. To make up a *resume* of current events, and thus furnish a budget of useful practical information, while at the same time striving, with due regard to historical incidents, to perpetuate the influence of those elevating and instructive thoughts, flowing, in eloquent words, from noble minds, so beautifully and redolently characteristic of current Masonic literature. Hence, in this series of reports, we have, by means of free selections and use of such material as appeared to be suited to our purpose, endeavored to perpetuate these lessons of wisdom, and to illustrate the Ethics and Esthetics of Masonry.

Our special admiration has been directed to its three great characteristic Pillars—Antiquity, Benevolence, and Conservatism—and if we in any way aided in illustrating this Grand Trinity of Masonic glories, we are more than satisfied.

OLIVER S. BEERS,
For the Committee.

Names and Numbers of Lodges,

With the number of Members, amount of Dues paid to the Grand Lodge, and the number of those Entered, Passed, Raised, Affiliated, Rejected, and Dimitted, since last Return:

Lodge Number.	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members	Amount of Dues.	Entered	Passed	Raised	Affiliated	Rejected	Dimitted
3	Alabama	21	$10 50	..	..	..	..	..	..
4	Rising Virtue	31	15 00	1	1	1	1	..	1
6	Moulton	69	31 50	2	1	..	..	2	4
7	Macon	35	17 00	2	1	1	1	..	1
8	Farrar	41	20 50	11	10	9	1	..	2
9	Gilead	35	17 50	..	..	..	..	..	2
10	Royal White Hart	49	25 00	2	2	2	..	..	2
11	Montgomery	52	26 50	1	1	1	1	..	4
12	Marion	14	7 00	..	..	..	..	..	2
14	Florence	48	22 50	..	..	..	..	..	2
16	Athens	63	29 00	4	2	1	2	..	4
22	Saint Albans	21	10 50	..	..	..	..	..	..
24	George Washington	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
25	Dale	54	25 50	..	..	1	..	..	5
26	LaFayette	34	17 00	..	1	1	1	2	2
27	Selma Fraternal	96	48 00	2	2	3	5	2	3
28	Marengo	14	14 00	1	1	1	1	..	1
29	Rising Sun	21	10 50	..	..	..	..	..	..
31	Autauga	37	18 00	..	..	..	..	..	2
36	Washington	29	14 50	1	1	..	2	..	2
37	Courtland	24	12 00	2	..	..	..	..	..
39	Wetumpka	35	17 00	1	1	..	..	..	1
40	Mobile	76	38 00	1	1	..	1	..	4
41	Livingston	41	19 50	1	1	1	2	..	2
42	Hiram	38	19 00	..	..	..	..	..	2
43	Leighton	27	12 50	..	..	..	1	..	..
44	Guston	16	7 50	..	..	..	3	1	..
46	Harmony	71	35 50	..	..	..	4	3	4
47	Warren	13	6 50	..	..	..	..	..	2

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

Lodge Number.	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members.	Amount of Dues.	Entered	Passed	Raised	Affiliated	Rejected	Dimitted
49	Demopolis	30	$14 50	1	1	..	..	1	3
50	Union	41	20 50	3	3	3	2	1	..
52	New Market	30	.....	..	..	.	1	.	1
53	Greening	38	18 50	..	..	1	..	..	1
54	Amity	50	44 50	2	2	3	1	.	1
55	Mount Moriah	34	16 50	..	1	1	..	.	5
56	Troy	89	42 00	13	12	12	5	1	6
57	Tuskegee	54	....	1	1	1	1	..	1
59	Benton	25	12 50	1	1	1	1	..	..
61	Tompkinsville	24	.....	..	..	..	..	..	2
62	Saint Johns	34	15 00	1	..	..	2	..	2
63	Social	27	13 00	..	..	..	..	..	..
64	Eureka	72	35 50	2	2	2	4	..	4
65	Liberty	21	10 50	..	..	..	..	..	2
67	Hampden Sidney	31	15 50	..	.	..	1	..	2
68	Holsey	22	11 00	..	..	..	..	..	1
69	Howard	65	31 50	..	..	..	2	..	2
70	Central	26	13 00	3	1	2	2	..	..
71	Tohopeka	37	18 00	..	..	..	..	..	2
72	Widow's Son	22	10 50	1	1	1	..	..	1
74	Solomon	36	16 50	..	..	..	2	..	1
76	Auburn	37	16 00	..	..	..	..	..	1
78	Crozier	31	15 50	1	1	1	2	2	2
79	Fredonia	20	9 00	..	..	..	..	..	..
80	Wilcox	27	13 50	1	1	2	2	.	2
81	Saint Stephens	29	28 00	1	1	1	..	..	..
82	Bellefonte	24	11 50	..	..	..	..	..	..
83	Friendship	27	....	1	1	..	2	.	1
84	Erophotic	27	28 00	..	..	..	1	..	..
88	Meridian Sun	16	7 00	1	1	1	2	.	1
89	Prattville	38	19 00	1	1	1		1	1
90	Pfister	20	10 00	2	1	1	2	..	..
91	Henry	32	16 00	1	1	1	.	..	5
93	Sawyer	31	14 50	1	1	1	1	.	..
95	Danville	64	48 50	1	1	1	2	.	3
96	Tuckabatchee	20	10 00	1	1	1	2	1	2
97	Lozahatchee	63	30 50		..	1	1	.	2
98	Fulton	22	10 00	2	..	.	..	..	.
99	Salem	25	12 00	..	..	..	..	..	..
101	Hartwell	42	18 00	..	..	..	..	1	4

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

Lodge Number.	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members	Amount of Dues	Entered	Passed	Raised	Affiliated	Rejected	Dimitted
103	Benson	22	$15 00	1	2	4			5
104	Good Samaritan	35	30 50		2	1			
105	Shiloh	26		1					2
106	Hermon	29	14 00				2		
107	Choctaw	28	13 50				1		
108	Oak Bowery	16	8 00	2	1	1			
110	Forest Hill	41		1	1	1	1		2
112	Dean	28				1			1
114	Midway	10	5 50						3
117	Perryville	25	11 50						1
119	Notasulga	23	11 50	1	1	1			
120	Camp Hill	24	12 00				2		1
122	Coffeeville	15	7 50	1					
123	Havana	21	10 50				1		1
125	Herndon	33	16 00				1		1
126	Mortimer Reeder	21	9 50						
129	Geneva	29	23 50	1	1	3	1		2
131	Yorkville	40	19 00	1	1	1	1		
133	Loachapoka	23	11 00	1	1	1	1		1
134	Wiley	22	11 00		1	1	1		
136	Unity	30	14 50	1	1	1	2		1
138	Bradford	25	12 50				2		5
139	Chilton	20					1		
140	Shelby	67	32 00	1	2	2	1	1	3
141	Bethel	25	12 00	1	1	1			3
142	Baldwin	21	10 00					1	
143	Burleson	30	14 00		1		2		2
144	Daleville	13	6 00				1		1
145	Fraternity	24	11 50						
147	Rodgersville	15	7 50	2	1	1		1	
148	Cold Water	22	10 00	2	2	1			1
151	Bladon Springs	18	15 50				1	1	
152	Mount Jefferson	25	11 50				3		
153	Monroeville	27	13 00						
154	Nixburg	17							
155	Eastaboga	17	17 50						2
157	Somerville	16	14 50		1		1		1
158	Mayaville	44		1	1		1		
163	Fayetteville Authentic	23	11 00		1	1	1		
166	Sumter	15	6 50						1

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

Lodge Number.	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members.	Amount of Dues.	Entered	Passed	Raised	Affiliated	Rejected	Dimitted
168	Mount Hope	30	$13 50	..	..	..	..	..	..
169	Buena Vista	12	6 00	..	..	..	..	..	..
170	Clopton	16	8 50	..	..	..	..	..	4
172	Fellowship	44	20 50	1	1	..	1	..	..
173	Andrew Jackson	94	47 00	3	3	2	1	..	7
175	Ezel	10	5 00	..	..	..	..	..	..
176	Davie	9	8 00	..	..	1	2	..	..
180	Mount Hilliard	21	23 00	1	1	1	..	..	1
181	Aberfoil	14	6 00	1	3	3	1	..	1
185	Mount Eagle	46	47 00	1	..	..	..	1	..
186	Cataula	28	30 00	..	..	..	..	..	..
188	Clintonville	19	9 50	3	..	..	..	..	1
190	Tombigbee	24	11 50	2	2	2	..	..	..
191	Brush Creek	20	9 00	..	..	..	..	..	3
192	Chattahoochee	22	11 00	..	..	..	..	..	..
193	High Log	25	12 50	..	1	1	1	..	2
195	Opelika	28	13 50	1	..	1	..	..	2
197	Hillabee	33	16 50	2	2	2	10	..	1
198	Caledonia	14	7 00	2	2	1	..	..	..
199	Kiligee	17	8 50	..	..	..	..	..	3
200	Sylacauga	38	19 00	..	..	1	2	..	..
201	Helicon	31	34 00	..	..	..	..	..	4
203	Valley	20	10 00	..	..	..	1	..	..
204	Manning Spring	13	6 00	..	..	..	1	..	1
206	Moscow	25	24 50	..	..	1	..	..	..
207	Pettusville	39	36 00	5	5	5	3	2	1
208	Alexandria	31	10 00	..	..	1	..	..	4
209	Marshall	30	15 00	..	..	..	..	..	1
210	Ebenezer	7	7 00	..	..	..	..	..	..
211	York	19	10 00	..	..	..	..	..	2
212	Putnam	39	38 00	1	1	1	..	..	1
213	Euclid	16	16 00	..	..	..	1	..	5
215	Builders	44	22 00	..	..	..	..	..	1
218	Sam Dixon	41	20 00	..	..	..	..	..	..
221	Tensaw	10	5 00	..	..	..	..	..	..
222	Western Star	33	15 50	..	..	2	5	..	..
223	Sandy Ridge	17	8 00	..	..	..	..	..	..
224	Newton	29	14 00	1	1	2	1	..	2
225	Louisville	23	11 50	..	..	..	1	..	..
226	Santa Fe	36	17 00	1	1	..	1	..	5

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

Lodge Number.	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members	Amount of Dues	Entered	Passed.	Raised	Affiliated	Rejected	Dimitted.
227	James Penn	25	$26 00						
228	Dallas	27	12 00				2		
233	Sepulga	21	7 50						
234	Isney	17							
235	Harpersville	29	14 50		1	1	6		1
237	Tallassee	18							2
238	Fairmount	20	15 50	3	4	4	1		1
241	Bowen	38	19 00	7	5	3		1	1
242	Coosa	32	15 00	1	1	2			
243	Ramer	20	9 50						1
244	Dawson	46	22 50	3	5	5			2
246	Harrison	26							3
248	Lawrence	41	19 50	1	1	1	2		
249	Toluca	13	6 00	1				1	
250	Amand	13	6 00						
251	Camp Creek	22	10 50						1
252	North Port	41	19 50	1			1	1	
254	Quitman	20	8 50						
256	Gaylesville	22	28 50						
257	Ervin	49	20 00					1	
258	Randolph	24	12 00				1	1	1
259	Magnolia	38	18 00	1	1	1	1	1	2
260	Bellville	28	13 50			1	1		1
261	Talladega	56	27 00	1			2		3
262	Highland	27	11 50	2	2	1			2
265	Meridian	49	23 00				2		2
266	Mount Pleasant	11	5 00						
267	Wind Creek	29	14 00						1
270	Butler Springs	31	15 50						
272	Clifton	22	11 00	1	1				3
274	Paint Rock	15	15 50	4	1	1	2		1
275	Frankfort	40	19 00	2	2	3	1		1
276	Bullock	17	8 50	3	3	2	1		4
278	Northern	51	25 00	1	1	1	1		3
280	Springville	30	13 50	1	1	1	5		
281	Charles Baskerville	28		1	1		1		3
285	Georgiana	41	17 50				1		4
286	Walker	19	8 50						1
287	Clinton	28	13 50			1	1		4
290	Gillespie		21 00						

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

Lodge Number.	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members.	Amount of Dues.	Entered	Passed	Raised	Affiliated.	Rejected.	Dimitted.
291	Fort Deposit	20	$ 9 50	..	..	..	1	..	..
301	Norris	48	24 00	..	2	2	1	1	..
304	Zion	26	29 50	1	1		1	1	1
305	Central City	77	37 50	2	2	2	5	1	11
315	Jonesboro	33	14 00	1	1	..	1	..	1
319	Cluttsville	12	6 00	..	..		..	..	..
320	Warrenton	33	.....	1	..	..	..	..	..
323	Holly Grove	29	12 00	1	1	2	..	..	..
324	Viola	27	.....	..	..	..	..	..	..
329	Madison Station	27	12 50	..	..		1	..	2
330	Forkland	16	15 50	1	1	1	..	..	..
331	Charity	22	11 00	..	..	1	1	..	1
332	Blue Eye	26	12 00	1	1	1	1	..	..
334	Oliver	30	14 50	..	..	..	1	2	2
335	Nanafalia	20	10 00	..	..	..	1	..	3
337	Johnson	31	15 00	2	2	2	..	..	..
339	Albert Pike	51	24 00	1	1	1	..	..	3
340	Clear Creek	33	.....	..	..		1	..	..
341	Ragan	33	15 00	3	3	3	1	..	1
343	Summit	20	18 00	1	..	..	..	..	3
344	Pikeville	31	15 50	2	1	2	3	1	..
345	Echo	29	14 00	1	..	..	1	1	2
346	Hurtville	16	7 50	..	..	..	..	..	..
348	Bienville	41	20 00	1	2	2	..	1	2
349	Ozark	53	26 00	1	1	1	3	..	7
351	Wilson Williams	24	11 00	1	1	1	2	1	2
353	Rock Mills	41	17 50	2	2	2	2	..	3
354	Heaton	38	17 50	1	1	1	..	..	..
356	Van Buren	46	21 50	1	1	1	3	..	2
357	Rutledge	23	10 50	..	..	..	1	..	1
358	Barbour	24	21 50	2	2	2	..	..	2
360	Newtonville	19	19 00		..	..	..	1	..
361	Town Creek	18	8 50	1	1	..	..	..	..
363	Chester	32	16 00	4	3	3	2	..	1
364	Pleasant Site	29	13 00	..	..	..	..	..	..
366	Cotaco	21	10 00	1	3	3	..	..	1
367	Chandler	27	12 50	..	..	2	1	..	..
368	Cross Plains	55	25 00	2	2	2	2	2	1
369	Athelstan	47	23 00	1	2	2	7	1	4
373	Bell's Landing	23	9 50	1	1	1	2	..	4

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

Lodge Number.	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members.	Amount of Dues	Entered	Passed	Raised	Affiliated	Rejected	Dimitted
374	Lodor	19	$ 9 50	..	..	..	1	..	1
375	Gainesville	35	17 00	..	..	..	1	..	..
376	Santa Creek	18	9 00	2	3	3	2	..	..
377	Lake City	50	50 00	2	2	4	1	1	23
379	Robert E. Lee	..	9 00	..	..	..	..	..	..
381	E. H. Cook	24	11 50	2	2	2	..	1	..
383	Ben Pope	23	22 50	2	2	2	3	..	4
384	Birmingham Fraternal	39	19 50	1	1	1	2	1	2
385	Munford	31	13 50	..	..	..	..	..	3
386	Trinity	18	9 00	..	..	..	..	..	3
387	Blue Spring	15	7 00	..	..	..	..	..	..
388	Newburgh	36	17 50	1	1	1	1	..	..
389	Vernon	46	44 50	10	6	6	3	6	2
390	Weathers	23	10 50	1	1	1	1	1	1
391	North Border	21	10 50	..	..	..	..	1	..
392	Hickory Flat	20	10 00	4	4	2	..	..	4
394	Valley Head	22	8 50	..	..	..	2	..	1
395	Opelika	24	11 00	..	1	1	..	..	7
396	Falkville	26	..	..	..	..	2	..	1
398	Hartselle	14	12 00	1	..	..	1	..	..
399	Haw Ridge	16	7 50	1	1	1	1	..	2
400	Hanceville	24	9 50	1	2	2	1	..	1
402	Green Hill	22	10 00	2	2	2	2	..	1
403	Childersburg	12	6 00	1	1	..	2	..	..
404	Hoboken	17	8 00	2	2	1	..	..	1
405	Blount Springs	18	16 50	6	3	2	..	..	5
406	Doric	22	10 50	1	1	1	7	..	3
407	North River	14	7 00	..	1	2	..	..	..
408	Hillsboro	18	9 00	1	1	1	1	1	..
409	Pondtown	12	5 50	1	1	1	..	..	..
410	Helena	26	13 00	5	3	3	7	1	..
411	Jemison	24	11 50	5	5	5	..	..	..
412	Amberson	24	12 00	3	2	1	2	..	..
415	Oak Level	21	.....	7	7	6	2	1	..
416	Williamsburg	14	6 50	4	4	5	1	..	..
417	George Smith	16	7 00	3	5	5	..	..	..
417	Hilton	11	.....	2	2	2	..	..	..
421	Cullman Fraternal	16	.....	6	3	3	..	1	..
422	Shorterville	10	.....	4	3	..	..	1	..
423	Clanton	9	.....	6	5	..	1	..	..

1877.

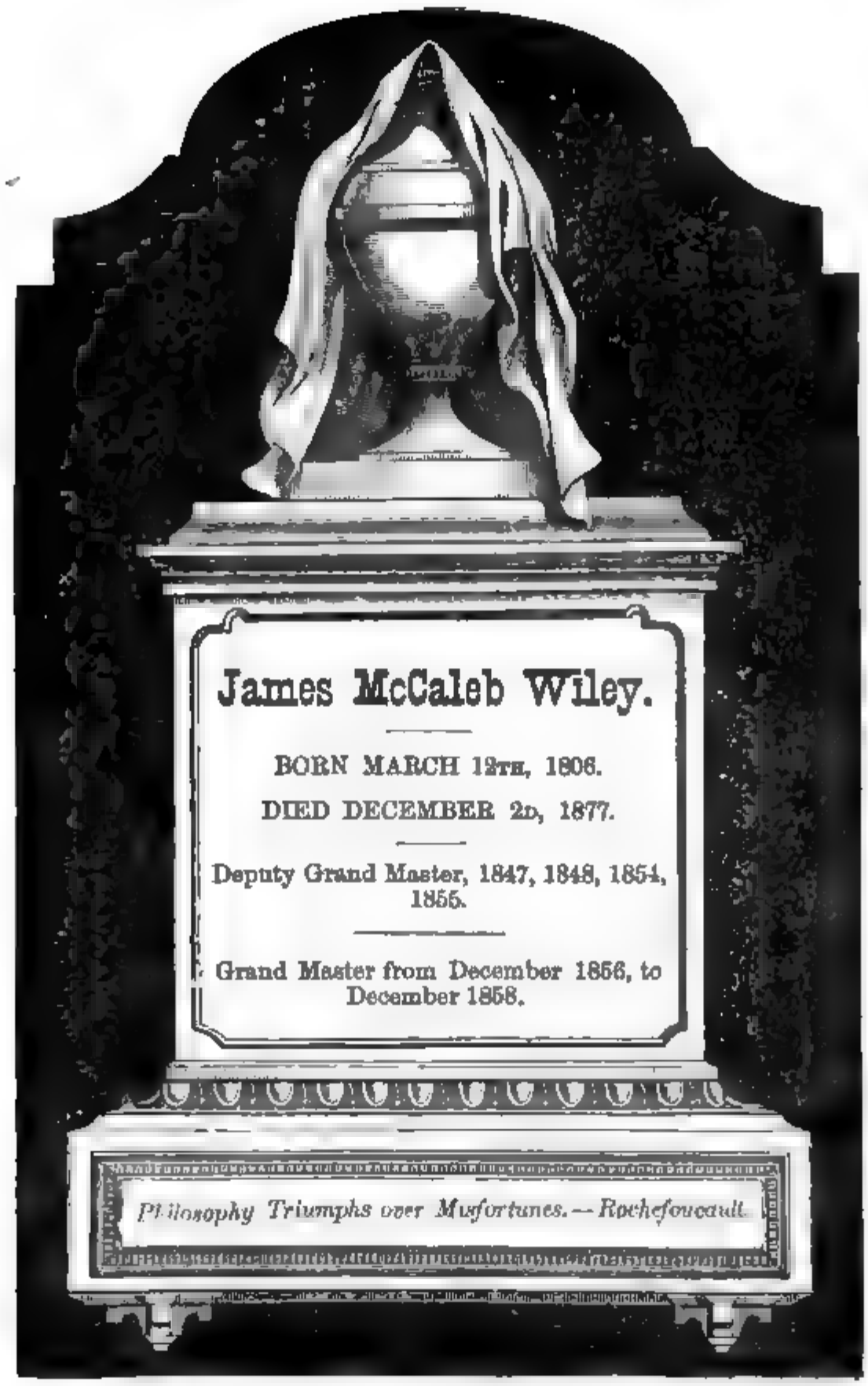
AT REFRESHMENT ABOVE.

Wesley Robinson, February 10.....	Macon.....No.	7
Nathaniel Hawkins, March 7.....	Farrar..... ..... "	8
Rufus K. Chisholm ———	Florence..... "	14
James W. Proctor, April 11.....		
David H. Friend, May 10.....	Athens..... "	16
Ferdinand Lindsay, July 29.....		
Andrew J. Smith, November 2.....		
James E. Milner, 65 years—August 17..	George Washington.... "	24
Enoch H. Cook. 74 years—January 6...	Dale..... ..... "	25
Richard Davis, March 24.....	La Fayette..... "	26
Robert B. Waller, April 20.....		
Edwin F. Griset, October 14.....	Selma Fraternal..... "	27
Charles T. Jones, 23½ years—March 13..	Rising Sun..... "	29
George L. Cockburn, 65 years—March 5.	Washington .... "	36
Thomas W. Henley, 50 years—Nov. 4...		
Bennett Roper, April 11.....	Courtland..... "	37
Israel I. Jones, December 26, 1876.....		
Wesley H. Meeker, June 10.....	Mobile..... ..... "	40
William C. Batchelor, October 1.....		
William H. Kelley, October 7.....		
William F. Turner, 65 years—April 16..		
David W. Hooks, 65 years—July 1.....	Livingston..... "	41
Lewellen Lewis, 65 years—July 10.....		
Henry Fitz, March 16.....		
John B. Prator, January 25.....	Hiram..... "	42
Joseph C. McAuley, November 25.....		
Thomas W. Young, August 30.....	Leighton..... ..... "	43
Selly L. Openheimer, October 3.....	Harmony..... "	46
William A. Robinson ———	Demopolis..... "	49
David D. Smith, June 18.....	New Market..... "	52
William M. Stallworth, March 5....,.	Greening..... ..... "	53
David F. Guice, September 1.....	Mount Moriah..... "	55
Jeremiah A. Henderson, April 7.....	Troy..... "	56
Jeremiah P. Routon, March 27.....		
James H. Dunklin, May 21.....	Eureka ..... "	64
Andrew J. Hawthorne, August 26.....		
Isaac Long, October 29.....		

John S. Goree, June 6	Hampden Sidney	" 67
James S. Alexander Sen., January 2	Howard	" 69
Charles W. Lyles, February 8		
Thomas A. Malone, May 10		
John H. Hargrove, September 29		
John J. Lintirn, April 8	Central	" 70
Jethro D. Rhodes, July 14		
Ben F. Fowler, August 17		
William J. Boon, February 18	Tohopeka	" 71
John C. Soyer, July 10	Widow's Son	" 72
Mark P. Johnson, February 9	Crozier	" 78
J. M. Bruner, July 15	Erophotic	" 84
Stephen H. Pearce, May 11	Prattville	" 89
Nathaniel N. Norris, October 22		
George P. Kinsey, May 22	Henry	" 91
Gaines W. Burden, June 22	Sawyer	" 93
Thomas Hubbard, January 1	Danville	" 95
Daniel B. Wilson, February 26	Lozahatchee	" 97
George E. Kelly, April 8		
John Hanks, October 4		
William E. Beaird, November 2	Fulton	" 98
Samuel L. Bennett, 66 years—March 29	Shiloh	" 105
Ephraim D. Conner, 62 years—April 27		
Julius G. Robinson, July 3, 1876	Dean	" 112
Nathan Ethridge, May 2	Midway	" 114
Joseph Vanderslice, April 28	Perryville	" 117
Simeon Glenn Gray, January 17	Havana	" 123
James D. Kimbrough, February 14	Herndon	" 125
Benjamin Gilpin, April 1	Geneva	" 129
James M. Allen, September 17	Loachapoka	" 133
James A. Kelley, May 2	Bradford	" 138
John W. Johnson, October 31	Shelby	" 140
Sidney Lomax, 61 years—October 1	Baldwin	" 142
Samuel Smith, ———	Fraternity	" 145
John B. Turner, November —, 1876		
John A. Fox, October	Bladon Springs	" 151
John H. Criswell. June 28, 1876	Eastoboga	" 155
Alonzo P. Cain, May 2, 1876	Somerville	" 157
Hugh L. Morrow, May 12, 1876		
John Byrns, June 14	Maysville	" 158
Francis B. Thompson, August 10	Fayetteville Authentic	" 163
Thomas Samson, November 3		
John A. McDonald, March 12	Sumter	" 166
Edward Balch, September —	Mount Hope	" 168
Ezekiel Duckworth, August 20	Fellowship	" 172
John Giovanni, April 29	Andrew Jackson	" 173
Samuel E. Norton, October 1		
Wilson A. Cope, October 25, 1876	Davie	" 176
William Swink, November 13		
John Watson, December 22, 1876	Cataula	" 186
Thomas N. Montgomery, April 13		

George Smith, May 31	Cataula	" 186
Mathew Lee, September 15		
Bennett Oldham, August 24		
Norman Carmichael, Dec. 17, 1876	Clintonville	" 188
William W. Gilmore, January 15	Tombigbee	" 190
Henry W. Crawford, 50 years—July 12	Brush Creek	" 191
Neil H. Baker, April 22	Hillabee	" 197
Thomas D. Ledbetter, June 17	Kiligee	" 199
William A. Vester, July 27		
John N. McGill, September —, 1876	Moscow	" 206
Hosea T. Henson, 27 years—Sept. 2		
John J. Sibley, June 28	Marshall	" 209
Angus C. Hugerson, Dec. 17, 1876	Newton	" 224
Ezekiel Watford, September 18		
Griswold H. Dolbear, May 8, 1875	Santa Fe	" 226
Averett McVey, May 16, 1875		
William B. Kelley, March 7	Harpersville	" 235
John N. Sowell, July 3, 1876	Fairmount	" 238
John H. McHugh, July 11	Bowen	" 241
Lindsey R. Caffey, January 2	Ramer	" 243
Samuel F. Johnson, September 23		
John W. W. Thomas, 55 years—Aug. 6	Harrison	" 246
James M. Milton, July 26	Toluca	" 249
William Frazier, 53 years—June 18	Camp Creek	" 251
William R. Bell, April 26	North Port	" 252
Pendleton Savage, August 28		
Hugh G. Bright, 73 years—Sept. —	Quitman	" 254
John Sampey, July 8	Bellville	" 260
Simeon Waits, July 9	Frankfort	" 275
Kinion Peacock, October 28	Clinton	" 287
David F. Harrington, July 7	Norris	" 301
Bonce P. Thomas, December, 1876	Central	" 305
Oliver Hubbard, May 8		
John M. Marcy, ——		
John B. Feemster, October 1	Warrenton	" 320
William R. Johnston, July 10	Madison Station	" 329
Napoleon B. Cooper, November 9	Charity	" 331
Lewis Horn, July 18	Johnson	" 337
William Horton, July 20	Summit	" 343
William S. Campbell, Dec. 19, 1876	Bienville	" 348
Moses G. Matthews, February 17	Ozark	" 349
Robert L. Pickett, March 8	Wilson Williams	" 351
William D. Daniel, 40 years—June 9	Heaton	" 354
John E. Gilbreath, March 21	Van Buren	" 355
John P Mills, February 2		
James E. Beard, September 13	Rutledge	" 357
Jacob Shepherd, March 26	Newtonville	" 360
Andrew Simmler, May —	Chester	" 363
John W. Redwine, April 21	Pleasant Site	" 364
Slade Nabors, September 23	Cross Plains	" 368
John Vidmer, November 23, 1876	Athelstan	" 369

David T. McCants, December 16, 1876.. } Jesse G. Bradly, February 4..... }	Bell's Landing.....	" 373
Thomas B. Jennings, May 13.....	Lodor.....	" 374
Lewis Miller, November 1, 1875.....	Lake City.....	" 377
Sion L. Hill, March 18.....	Ben Pope.....	" 383
Thomas Martin, July 16.....	Birmingham Fraternal.	" 384
David H. McClellan, 58 years—Oct. 7...	Newburg.....	" 388
Aaron G. Brewer, ——	Doric.....	" 406
John Davis, 64 years—August 5.....	Amberson	" 412


James McCaleb Wiley.
BORN MARCH 12TH, 1806.
DIED DECEMBER 2D, 1877.
Deputy Grand Master, 1847, 1848, 1854, 1855.
Grand Master from December 1856, to December 1858.
Philosophy Triumphs over Misfortunes.—Rochefoucault.

Suspended for Non-payment of Dues.

Rising Virtue No. 4.—James A. Skelton—1.

Gilead No. 9.—William D. Whitted, Thomas J. Wilson, Harrison R. Callis, Rufus G. Lassiter, Gross Tarver—5.

Royal White Hart No. 10.—John L. McKee, Americus B. Bush, James C. Flournoy—3.

Montgomery No. 11.—John Egger, Henry Meyer, David Hirshman, Louis Goldman, George A. Stein—5.

Marion No. 12.—Robert L. Goode—1.

Florence No. 14.—James M. Crow, James Douglas, William C. Scott, Gaines Roach, Benjamin F. Williams, Presley H. Williams, John W. Brown, Robert T. Call, Andrew J. Williams, Andrew J. Walker, William A. Mitchell, Thomas Alexander, James P. Murdock, Thomas B. Cochran, Aaron Lanier, J. L. Robinson—16.

Dale No. 25.—Edward N. Jones—1.

Selma Fraternal No. 27.—Joseph May, Henry G. Noble, Meier Rehofer—3.

Marengo No. 28.—T. B. Gaines—1.

Rising Sun No. 29.—Richard Fields, W. W. Hammaker, J. W. Jones, James H. Wells, A. R. Stevenson, Richard Fields—6.

Washington No. 36.—William M. Jackson, William T. Norman—2.

Courtland No. 37.—James J. Beemer, Thomas J. Holland, Jesse M. Hall, John A. Daniel, Joseph W. Tweedy, William C. Graham—6.

Wetumpka No. 39.—James H. Judkins, Charles P. Walker, George W. Smith—3.

Mobile No. 40.—James G. Stewart, Joseph Tucker—2.

Livingston No. 41.—Rufus M. Brassfield, George W. Dainwood, Boanerges C. Hunter, John R. Larkin, Andrew O. DuRose—5.

Leighton No. 43.—James P. Hennigan—1.

Warren No. 47.—James D. Roy, Joseph B. Myrick, John J. L. Stewart, John Rucker, John W. Clark, John W. Hollon—6.

Demopolis No. 49.—Emanuel Adler, Alexander Armstrong, Timothy G.

Cornish, Pearson J. Glover, Edward D. Kohler, William A. Seawell, Benjamin T. Hurt.

UNION No. 50.—Robert H. Harper—1.

NEW MARKET No. 52.—Thomas P. Adams—1.

TROY No. 56.—Charles L. Allen—1.

SAINT JOHN'S No. 62.—William M. Thornton, Thomas H. Dozier, Benjamin F. Darnell, Henry Kohn, Richard H. Powell—5.

EUREKA No. 64.—Thomas J. Burnett, Charles J. Watson, Andrew M. Crum, Henry P. Oliver, Nathaniel V. Clopton, John Gamble, John Lister, Edwin Knight, John A. Knight, Rufus P. Watt, Robert B. Wright—11.

LIBERTY No. 65.—Charles A. English, Myron A. Boynton—2.

HAMPDEN SIDNEY No. 67.—William Martin, Walter C. Long, John Sparrenburger—3.

TOHOPEKA No. 71.—R. P. Young, John F. Shepard, Beauford T. Yarbrough, William H. Shepard, Benjamin H. Wagner, J. Joseph Shepard—6.

WIDOW'S SON No. 72.—William J. Brinthaupt, Matthew F. Albritton, Henry V. Johnson, Allen K. Albritton, Thomas Lee—5.

SOLOMON No. 74.—Cornelius Ray—1.

AUBURN No. 76.—Andrew H. Read—1.

CROZIER No. 78.—Alfred T. Martin, Robert M. Hanna—2.

FREDONIA No. 79.—David R. Coleman, Thomas W. Glass, James D. Trammell—3.

WILCOX No. 80.—James F. Newbury—1.

BELLEFONTE No. 82.—Lemuel G. Mead, A. P. Hudgins, William H. Allen—3.

FRIENDSHIP No. 83.—Jacob D. Kersh, Charles J. Stewart, DeWitt L. Logan, Henry A. Peters. Thomas M. Taylor, John A. Lee, Richmond Riley—7.

EBOPHOTIC No. 84.—R. H. Lee, E. H. Snow, M. R. P. Moorer, George Brunner—4.

MERIDIAN SUN No. 88.—William A. Davis—1.

PRATTVILLE No. 89.—W. F. Smith, William Walker, Patrick A'Hearn—3.

SAWYER No. 93.—Robert Lattimer, Stephen A. Pollard, William J. Stallings, Robert Merrill, Hardy R. Jackson, Solomon E. Jordan—6.

DANVILLE No. 95.—William Breedlove, Samuel Lindsey, Elijah J. Puckett, Wesley L. Stover, William M. Vest, Nathan L. Proctor, Manovah V. Henry, Anderson G. Copeland—8.

TUCKABATCHEE No. 96.—John Kilcrease—1.

FULTON No. 98.—Julius E. Barnes, Talbert A. McElroy, Richard H. Roark—3.

SALEM No. 99.—David A. Crockett, Greene B. Edwards, William H. C. Edwards, Daniel H. Floyd, Charles T. Floyd, Augustus M. Greene, William P. Mangham, Sterling H. Pitts, John D. Skinner, M. D. Shelton, Nathan Aldridge, James A. Crockett—12.

HARTWELL No. 101.—William F. Higgins, Zachariah H. Clardy, William J. Borden, John A. Nicholson, Samuel J. Noble—5.

BENSON No. 103.—William Lee, James M. Wilson, Robert H. Wilson, William A. Bean—4.

SHILOH No. 105.—Phil Mask, William B. Fornis, Nat G. Threadgill—3.

CHOCTAW No. 107.—John Smith—1.

OAK BOWERY No. 108.—Joseph H. Harris—1.

DEAN No. 112.—James P. Lunsford, John P. Lunsford, William Lunsford, Aries Lunsford—4.

PERRYVILLE No. 117.—S. A. Edwards, Robert Farley, Benjamin F. Garrison, William R. Hanson, Napoleon J. B. Suttles, Joseph R. Walters—6.

NOTASULGA No. 119.—James N. Wood, Robert J. Plant, Archibald McKee—3.

CAMP HILL No. 120.—John W. Fleming—1.

HAVANA No. 123.—Thomas J. Powers, George R. Elliott, Peter A. Elliott—3.

YORKVILLE No. 131.—Andrew J. Pridmore, John B. Williams—2.

LOACHAPOKA No. 133.—Simeon Herring, Thomas S. Phillips, Thomas J. Dismuke—3.

UNITY No. 136.—Andrew J. Aldridge, John A. Bishop, David Dortch, Enoch Davis, Robert J. Doak, Robert H. G. Gaines, John D. Lindsey, Nathaniel J. McConnell, Allen McIntosh, George Fountain, James G. McCaskey, James H. Miller, James M. Johnson, Thomas J. Kimball—14.

BALDWIN No. 142.—John D. Weekly—1.

DALEVILLE No. 144.—Seth A. Cotter—1.

FRATERNITY No. 145.—Jesse W. Ellis, George D. Shelton—2.

RODGERSVILLE No. 147.—John D. Nance, George Shoemaker, Benjamin F. Taylor, W. J. Warmack, Joshua J. Crittenden, Thomas H. Jones—6.

BLADON SPRINGS No. 151.—Henry H. Powe, Thomas L. Whitsett, Alexander H. Chestnut, Jeremiah N. Daniels—4.

MAYSVILLE No. 158.—Monroe A. Sublett, George W. O'Neal, Callaway Potts, F. M. Sanford, Jesse Reed, Thomas B. Lawler—6.

SUMTER No. 166.—Benjamin B. Seale, John A. Lockard, Darting E. Allen—3.

MOUNT HOPE No. 168.—John M. Clark, John McClung, James H. Wear, Valentine A. Hamilton, John M. Coleman, James S. Gipson, William H. Greene, Valentine A. Bird—8.

BUENA VISTA No. 169.—Frank Hubbard—1.

CLOPTON No. 171.—John Harper—1.

FELLOWSHIP No. 172.—Benjamin F. Jenkins, James Berry, Charles Robertson, William H. Moore, Alexander C. Robertson—5.

ANDREW JACKSON No. 173.—Whit W. Brame, William P. Bell, James V. Calhoun, John W. Jones, Edward H. Morrison, Samuel K. Phillips, Alexander P. Wilson—7.

EZEL No. 175.—James H. Houtton, Elihu Henderson, Jackson L. Smiley—3.

MOUNT HILLIARD No. 180.—Daniel Moore, John J. Griswell, Burrell E. Braswell, Andrew Rich,—4.

CATAULA No. 186.—James E. Hall, Roland Hood, John W. Partlon, John B. Rowan, James M. Philips, John C. Brown—6.

CLINTONVILLE No. 188.—Christopher C. Stringfellow, John M. Carmichael, William Armour—3.

BRUSH CREEK No. 191.—Alfred Joie, William J. Gully—2.

HIGH LOG No. 193.—Henry Hutchinson—1.

HELICON No. 201.—Isaac D. Collier, Andrew J. Clayton, Everett Davies, Sion Mitchell, William J. Bird, Franklin Bedsale, Ransom Duke, Matthew J. Gamble, Rowlen Jefcoat, John W. Pruett—10.

VALLEY No. 203.—Richard J. Tillery, Wade H. Hill—2.

MANNING SPRING No. 204.—James W. McDade, Robert M. Hill—2.

MOSCOW No. 206.—Mack W. Loyd, Zachariah Harrington, David J. Guthry—3.

ALEXANDRIA No. 208.—William Broughton, John L. Willbanks, Elisha V. Weaver, Robert Page, Elbert G. Morris, William A. Reid—6.

YORK No. 211.—Samuel E. Cooner, Joseph W. Ferguson, Walter G. Gravlee, Andrew J. Hamilton, John A. Lollar, John B. Sumner, William Randolph, John J. Thomas, William J. Cooner, Lucius G. Freeman, Joseph T. Sherer, Ira Robins, Robert Blackwood, James A. Barton, William F. Peterson, Jacob A. Jones, Elijah O'Rear—17.

NEWTON No. 224.—James T. Richardson, John L. Bailey, John C. Dean—3.

LOUISVILLE No. 225.—William P. Baxter, Daniel D. McDonald, Stephen A. Andrews, Malcomb Gillis—4.

JAMES PENN No. 227.—John Barnes, Wiley M. Camp, Hilliard Jowns, Abijah Reeder, John H. Walker—5.

DALLAS No. 228.—Robert J. Riddle, Abram Leverett, Wilson M. Ligon, Matthew McClintock—4.

SEPULGA No. 233.—Artemus A. Pegler, Artis A. Pegler—2.

HARPERSVILLE No. 235.—Joshua Gove—1.

FAIRMOUNT No. 238.—John Findly, Henry Ward, William H. Rose—3.

DAWSON No. 244.—Franklin A. Ansley, Joseph Bryan, Hillary R. Shine, Uriah H. Cook, Daniel Norsworthy—5.

CAMP CREEK No. 251.—Julius F. Sims—1.

NORTH PORT No. 252.—Zachariah T. Christian, David A. Edes, George W. Hassell, James W. Shepherd—4.

GAYLESVILLE No. 256.—H. Young, James Newman, William F. Henderson, B. M. McGee, Charles M. Bell, Andrew L. Barry, E. Cunningham—7.

RANDOLPH No. 258.—Wesley Latham, Michael Pickett, Andrew J. Cox, Rolly Latham, Samuel Sellers—5.

MAGNOLIA No. 259.—Joseph A. Carter—1.

TALLADEGA No. 261.—Jarrett Thompson—1.

MOUNT PLEASANT No. 266.—Reuben Arthur—1.

CLIFTON No. 272.—John D. Pritchett, Theodore H. Watson, Eli Yow—3.

PAINT ROCK No. 274.—Joseph G. Thomas, David A. Thomas—2.

BULLOCK No. 276.—James W. Ellis—1.

NORTHERN No. 278.—Lazarus H. Vann, John M. Ledbetter, Allison Worley—3.

CHARLES BASKERVILLE No. 281.—William A. Blackburn, James M. Dodson, William L. Jones, Caleb Ehl, John W. Willingham, Jesse F. Ellis, James E. Andrews—7.

GEORGIANA No. 285.—John J. Dean, John K. Sellers—2.

CLINTON No. 287.—Benjamin S. Bracewell, Pearson C. Peacock, George H. Thomas, William J. Bracewell—4.

FORT DEPOSIT No. 291.—James H. Rencher, William R. Wilkerson—2.

NORRIS No. 301.—Claiborne Dixon, David F. Harrington, Nathan M. Lynam, John T. Larkin, Ezekiel P. Lovelace, Henry P. Smith—6.

ZION No. 304.—James M. Spann, Elisha Vickery, Charles C. Stewart, Calvin Bishop, Simeon Estes, David Lee, James Lee, Isaac Perry, Theodore S. Webster, Zephaniah Anderson—10.

CENTRAL CITY No. 305.—Euclid Johnson, Thomas J. Wolf, William T. Smith—3.

JONESBORO No. 315.—Isaac W. Sadler, Willis A. Farrington, Jacob Sharp, Thomas H. Owen, William D. McLaughlin, James H. Baker—6.

WARRENTON No. 320.—James Bayles, William R. Wade, Thomas J. Connelly—3.

MADISON STATION No. 329.—James M. Douthit, James W. Farley, William T. Garner, John R. Slaughter, William A. Pike, Joseph D. Williams, Robert B. Wingo, James P. Ashford, William N. Dedmon, John G. Bowers, James M. Baldwin—11.

FORKLAND No. 330.—L. L. Singleton—1.

NANAFALIA No. 335.—George Herrin, John C. Kimbrell—2.

JOHNSON No. 337.—Adam A. Benbow, Nubal A. Moore—2.

ALBERT PIKE No. 339.—James S. Barton, J. Richard Cantrell, George H. Glass, James Rutland, Nathan H. Scruggs, James Wright—6.

CLEAR CREEK No. 340.—David C. Manasco, William Dodd jr., John Taylor, John F. Cagle, Francis M. Revis, John York, John Larrimore, William Harbin, Joseph Jackson, Daniel J. Mize, Josier Commens, Andrew J. Taylor, Thomas J. Cowart, Albert Lawson, Henry H. Dupree, John B. Faught—16.

SUMMIT No. 343.—John W. Linn, James S. Hamilton—2.

PIKEVILLE No. 344.—William K. Westbrook—1.

ECHO No. 345.—John W. Branan, Hansford D. Price—2.

HURTVILLE No. 346.—Benjamin F. Borom, W. T. Chandler, James P. Crawford, Grigsby T. Long, Levi J. Wilcoxon—5.

BIENVILLE No. 348.—Absalom Kittrell—1.

OZARK No. 349.—Nicholas T. Christian, Robert J. Dowling, George M. T. Gibson, Melon T. Matthews, James W. T. Smith, Aris Woodham—6.

ROCK MILLS No. 353.—Edward D. Andrews, Elisha M. Gross, John T. Bennett, George B. Hendon, William Alluson, James W. McDonough—6.

VAN BUREN No. 355.—Leander Copeland, Isaac N. Lovins, Jesse L. Jolly, Warren H. Sims, Thomas J. Nicholson, Alexander Stewart, William H. Morgan, John W. Norman—8.

RUTLEDGE No. 357.—Levi B. Hambrick, George W. Lowery—2.

BARBOUR No. 358.—William Phipps—1.

NEWTONVILLE No. 360.—Gray Strickland, David E. Woods, William Johnson, John L. Patterson, William Hollman—5.

TOWN CREEK No. 361.—Telemachus A. Scogins, J. W. Spangler—2.

CHESTER No. 363.—Monroe D. Parker, James C. Calvet, James Vanderford, Annanias W. Thomas, William C. Pasley, Samuel Hays, John M. Cates—7.

PLEASANT SITE No. 364.—William R. Hughes, David N. Patterson—2.

CHANDLER No. 367.—Zimri Brooks, James H. Bell, Asa B. Reid, Reese T. Reed—4.

CROSS PLAINS No. 368.—Andrew D. Bailey, Solomon W. Swafford—2.

BEN POPE No. 383.—Levi Worthington—1.

BIRMINGHAM FRATERNAL No. 384.—John A. Milner, Andrew Marree, John B. Webb, James B. Fonville, James W. Butler, Michael Haggarty, E. J. Kirby, Joseph D. Knowlton, John L. Worthington, Lawrence H. Matthews, Michael Clifford—11.

MUNFORD No. 385.—Simon W. Pace—1.

TRINITY No. 386.—Francis M. Davis, John C. Baker sen., Eugene Ferris, George C. Roop—4.

NEWBERGH No. 388.—Francis M. Little, William P. Dickinson, Isaac L. Graves, John G. Whitlock, Thomas J. Mitchell, John S. Russell, Charles P. Banks—7.

VERNON No. 389.—John Holliday, B. Van Buren McDaniel, James M. L. Guyton, Vincennes Holly, Simeon B. Thomas, Craven Walker, Bluford McDaniel—7.

WEATHERS No. 390.—Hardy Robertson, Leander Robertson, William Robertson, Riley F. Robertson, John W. Miller—5.

NORTH BORDER No. 391.—Andrew P. Vaught, Simeon Corder, Benjamin F. Gray, Samuel M. Ragle, James P. Ragle, James B. Cox, Albert M. Brooks, Hardy T. Chapman, Jerome W. Westmoreland—9.

HICKORY FLAT No. 392.—Joseph T. Hudson, John C. Strickland—2.

OPELIKA No. 395.—Isham Benton--1.

FALKVILLE No. 396.—James J. Dinsmore, Volley E. Sims—2.

GREEN HILL No. 402.--James Bretherick—1.

DORIC No. 406.—Pinkney P. Carroll—1.

HELENA No. 410.—Burrus A. Warren, John C. Jones—2.

Reinstated.

MACON No. 7.—Elijah M. Chapman, Giles C. McLeod—2.

FARRAR No. 8.—Robert J. Vann, Robert T. Emond, William S. Earnest, William McDonald—4.

GILEAD No. 9.—John Young—1.

ROYAL WHITE HART No. 10.—Monroe Warren, Edward S. Harris—2.

GEORGE WASHINGTON No. 24.—William E. Morgan, William T. Eatman—2.

DALE No. 25.—Duncan A. McDonald, Orrin D. Carstarphen—2.

LAFAYETTE No. 26.—William D. Burford—1.

SELMA FRATERNAL No. 27.—Charles B. Hill, Edwin C. Haygood, Willis D. Clark, Henry Lewis Smith, William H. Huston, Benjamin D. Crum—6.

RISING SUN No. 29.—James S. Britton—1.

WASHINGTON No. 36.—Lewis B. Thornton—1.

MOBILE No. 40.—Lewis Green—1.

GASTON No. 44.—Charles H. Bryant—1.

HARMONY No. 46.—Solon A. Wellborn, Maximilian B. Wellborn, Stanton H. Dent, Samuel Bennett, John L. M. McRae, J. B. Bryant, John W. Johnson, Thomas A. Smart, Benjamin Morris, William H. Patterson, Patrick O'Byrne, Henry R. Shorter—12.

DEMOPOLIS No. 49.—Mat Bainbridge, David Aiken—2.

UNION No. 50.—James J. Brown, Edward E. Hudson, M. S. Herran—3.

NEW MARKET No. 52.—George H. Britton—1.

GREENING No. 53.—Joseph B. Bonnett—1.

AMITY No. 54.—Thomas B. McKerall—1.

MOUNT MORIAH No. 55.—John T. Stinson—1.

TROY No. 56.—John A. Cunningham—1.

SAINT JOHN'S No. 62.—Chandler M. Pope—1.

EUREKA No. 64.—Seth S. May—1.

HAMPDEN SIDNEY No. 67.—Milton A. Goree—1.

HOLSEY No. 68.—John W. Shelly—1.

HOWARD No. 69.—John W. Blair—1.

CENTRAL No. 70.—Henry Backus—1.

TOHOPEKA No. 71.—James I. Sewell, James H. Lowry, Andrew J. Lowry—3.

WIDOW'S SON No. 72.—Samuel G. Dilburne—1.

SOLOMON No. 74.—Isaac H. Vincent—1.

AUBURN No. 76.—Isaiah J. Morris—1.

FREDONIA No. 79.—Winston W. Gay—1.

WILCOX No. 80.—William T. Martin, Joseph Kearns, Thomas F. Jenkins—3.

FRIENDSHIP No. 83.—Benjamin F. Glass, Alexander H. James, James A. M. Ward—3.

PRATTVILLE No. 89.—Stephen H. Pearce—1.

HENRY No. 91.—George T. Roberts—1.

SAWYER No. 93.—David A. Perryman, William H. Spence, David M. Smith, J. F. M. Davis, Timothy E. Disharoon—5.

DANVILLE No. 95.—Arthur T. Couch, Elias Craft, William G. Copeland, John N. Cannon, John T. Hendon, Robert M. Livingston, Samuel C. Lovelady, Simeon P. Lovelady, John B. Long, Wesley B. Linsey, Robert C. Puckett, Hiram N. Vest, George W. Vest, John P. Woodall, Middleton E. Woodall, David D. Gibson, David Day, John W. Hartgrove, George W. Wiley, Sylvanus Gibson, William S. Terrentine, John Gibson, Richard B. Day, Matthew A. Gray—24.

TUCKABATCHEE No. 96.—Robert E. Hartness—1.

HARTWELL No. 101.—Sterling G. Jenkins, William M. Taylor, Tolliver P. Gwin, James C. Wright, James M. McLean, Christopher A. Orr, John Yoe—7.

GOOD SAMARITAN No. 104.—Edmond Persell—1.

FOREST HILL No. 110.—Calvin Upchurch—1.

NOTASULGA No. 119.—Jacob S. Chestnut, Elisha Gullahorn, Robert B. Barrow—3.

COFFEEVILLE No. 122.—John Pace—1.

YORKVILLE No. 131.—Thomas H. Anderson, Alexander W. Agnew, L. D. Hawkins—3.

LOACHAPOKA No. 133.—Thomas D. Hart—1.

BRADFORD No. 138.—Jesse White—1.

SHELBY No 140.—Michael J. O'Barr—1.

BURLESON No. 143.—Hardin Patterson, William R. Johnson, William G. Stamphill, Thomas Thorn, Jasper Davis, John B. Hardin—6.

DALEVILLE No. 144.—William Scomers—1.

FRATERNITY No. 145.—Frank A. Hanna—1.

COLD WATER No. 148.—Marion Hogan, James H. Strickland—2.

BLADON SPRINGS No. 151.—James L. Lenoir, Bladon L. Corley, John B. Long—3.

MOUNT JEFFERSON No. 152.—William Hamilton—1.

SOMERVILLE No. 157.—Thomas C. Grady, Nathan Marion, John N. Wilson, John Dunn, John M. Simpson—5.

MAYSVILLE No. 158.—John C. Clark—1.

FAYETTEVILLE AUTHENTIC No. 163.—James Perryman, William Perryman, John W. Cooper, John H. Townsend, James S. Mayherge—5.

SUMTER No. 166.—John E. Ewell, Caleb C. Williams—2.

MOUNT HOPE No. 168.—John R. Chilcoat—1.

FELLOWSHIP No. 172.—Thomas G. Osborne—1.

MOUNT HILLIARD No. 180.—Joseph Riley.

CATAULA No. 186.—William B. Kerr, Samuel A. Wyatt—2.

CLINTONVILLE No. 188.—Elisha Folsum, Isaiah T. Law, Joseph Sawyer—3.

BRUSH CREEK No. 191.—James M. Henderson—1.

CHATTAHOOCHEE No. 192.—Timothy Collins, Terry Collins—2.

HILLABEE No. 197.—William D. Saxon, Jasper P. Williams—2.

SYLACAUGA No. 200.—William J. Evans, Archibald S. Stewart—2.

HELICON No. 201.—John W. Davis—1.

VALLEY No. 203.—William L. Godwin—1.

MARSHALL No. 209.—Charles Eubanks—1.

PUTNAM No. 212.—James H. Robinson, James S. Fitner—2.

EUCLID No. 213.—Wylie L. Cooper—1.

SANDY RIDGE No. 223.—Alpha Champion—1.

LOUISVILLE No. 225.—Seaborn J. Cumming, Uzziel R. Shelby, James R. Gaines—3.

SANTA FE No. 226.—Henry Bryers—1.

JAMES PENN No. 227.—George W. Wright, Levin A. Wright—2.

DALLAS No. 228.—Thomas W. Newsom, Melton O. Lee—2.

RAMER No. 243.—William K. Chambers, Moses W. Smith—2.

DAWSON No. 244.—Robert M. Josey, John W. LaFlore, George Shell, Joseph M. Sellers—4.

HARRISON No. 246.—Joseph M. Beard, James A. Smith, William V. Thomas—3.

LAWRENCE No. 248.—Andrew J. Calhoun, John P. Crawford—2.

QUITMAN No. 254.—Henry H. Shell—1.

ERVIN No. 257.—Robert M. Guttery—1.

RANDOLPH No. 258.—John Lovejoy—1.

TALLADEGA No. 261.—Thomas P. Whitfield, George W. Parsons, George S. Walden, William C. McCullough, William Wallace Wilson—5.

HIGHLAND No. 262.—David Y. Wyatt, Robert F. Duncan, John A. Griffin, George Harrel—4.

WIND CREEK No. 267.—Joseph Knox, William Johnston, Wiley A. O'Daniel—3.

FRANKFORT No. 275.—Nimrod T. Underwood, James W. Hooper—2.

SPRINGVILLE No. 280.—Henderson D. Cowden, Reuben Little—2.

WALKER No. 286.—John C. Self, George S. Camp.

CLINTON No. 287.—John Cain—1.

NORRIS No. 301.—John F. Barker—1.

HOLLY GROVE No. 323.—Nevels H. Bridges—1.

MADISON STATION No. 329.—Elkanah J. Trotman—1.

BLUE EYE No. 332.—John T. Truss, Henry Truss—2.

NANAFALIA No. 335 —Charles C. Johnston—1.

JOHNSON No. 337.—William P. Curtis—1.

ALBERT PIKE No. 339.—James S. Baker, John Carrithers, William Daniel, Jack G. Guthrie, David B. Hall, Goodloe Pride, Charles T. Pride, John Ross, John H. Rodgers, Seaborn Thorn—10.

PIKEVILLE No. 344.—William T. Hamilton, Aaron M. Sullins—2.

ECHO No. 345.—Daniel Riley, Nelson Stuckey, John W. Branch, Paul H. Preston—4.

BIENVILLE No. 348.—John L. Owen—1.

ROCK MILLS No. 353.—Samuel Cole, William S. Mayfield, Elias G. Breed, William C. Whittock, Thomas T. Holley—5.

VAN BUREN No. 355.—James Chastain—1.

RUTLEDGE No. 357.—Pinckney A. Tatum, George W. Hagard, Frederick Bush—3.

NEWTONVILLE No. 360.—Jacob G. Trull, Thomas J. Trull—2.

PLEASANT SITE No. 364.—Francis M. Winchester—1.

CROSS PLAINS No. 368.—Joseph R. Walker—1.

BEN POPE No. 383.—Gabriel Hughes—1.

MUNFORD No. 385.—Thomas W. Norris—1.

NORTH BORDER No. 391.—Alexander Ridgeway, George W. Ragle—2.

HICKORY FLAT No. 392.—John W. Noland, James H. Hines—2.

HELENA No. 410.—William B. Cross—1.

Suspended for Unmasonic Conduct.

Charles E. Holt, October 17	Athens	No.	16
F. DeGraffenreid, September 18	Rising Sun	"	29
Joseph H. Hampshire, March 26	Mobile	"	40
Nathaniel V. Clopton, September 3	Eureka	"	64
Thomas Lynch, June 16	Central	"	70
John M. Hudspeth, July 14	Henry	"	91
Francis A. Roberts, December 23	Danville	"	95
David G. Wilson, September	Benson	"	103
John A. West, October 3, for 6 mos.	Shelby	"	140
Virgil W. Wright, January 10	Bladon Springs	"	151
James A. Wylie, June 18	Euclid	"	213
Edward T. Brewton, March 21	Norris	"	301
Benjamin Long, May 2	Central City	"	305
James W. Stevens, December 30, 1876.	Rock Mills	"	353
Francis M. Mackey, August 4, 1876.	Newtonville	"	360
Samuel Dillard, April 21	Ben Pope	"	383

Expelled.

Benjamin Anderson	Marion	No.	12
James T. Thigpen, F. C.	Dale	"	25
Peter Binford	Rising Sun	"	29
William E. Stammers	Harmony	"	46
Thomas S. Rhyne	Hermon	"	106
Robert B. Cave, George W. Huggins	Unity	"	136
Harry B. Norwood	Cold Water	"	148
Walter Towry	Eastaboga	"	155
Joseph Irvin	Mount Eagle	"	185
George W. Dillard	Hillabee	"	197
John E. Brewer	James Penn	"	227
James M. Piggott	Sepulga	"	233
Edward W. Nix	Bowen	"	241
James H. Stewart	Quitman	"	254
John C. Johnson	Ervin	"	257
Reuben Arthur	Mount Pleasant	"	266
Solomon D. Wilson	Butler Springs	"	270
J. D. Rudd	Bullock	"	276
George W. Milam	Ragan	"	341
Robert A. Ware	Chester	"	363

Lodges Delinquent in 1877.

FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

Helion	No.	1	Bexar	No.	230
George Washington	"	24	Duck Spring	"	231
Vienna	"	48	Isney	"	234
Jefferson	"	51	Tallassee	"	237
New Market	"	52	John Payne	"	245
Tompkinsville	"	61	Harrison	"	246
Friendship	"	83	Cropwell	"	247
Newbern	"	102	Rose Hill	"	253
Shiloh	"	105	Walnut Grove	"	264
Forest Hill	"	110	Pea River	"	271
Sylvan	"	111	Larkinsville	"	277
Felix	"	124	Charles Baskerville	"	281
Bolivar	"	127	Richmond	"	282
Roanoke	"	132	Warrenton	"	320
Columbia	"	135	Viola	"	324
Chilton	"	139	Georgiana Davis	"	338
Missouri	"	146	Clear Creek	"	340
Chambers	"	149	Sipsey	"	350
Etam	"	150	Scottsboro	"	359
Maysville	"	158	Houston	"	365
Penick	"	161	Goliad	"	370
Elba	"	170	Russellville	"	371
Desotoville	"	178	Ohatchee	"	380
Brundidge	"	184	Waterloo	"	382
Landmark	"	187	Falkville	"	396
Delta	"	189	Black Oak	"	397
Carrollton	"	214	High Shoals	"	413
Lineville	"	219			

FOR NON-REPRESENTATION.

Helion	No.	1	Carrollton	No.	214
Alabama	"	3	Builders	"	215
Rising Virtue	"	4	Lineville	"	219
Gilead	"	9	Tensaw	"	221
Marion	"	12	Bexar	"	230
George Washington	"	24	Duck Spring	"	231
LaFayette	"	26	Isney	"	234

Courtland	No.	37
Hiram	"	42
Vienna	"	48
Union	"	50
Jefferson	"	51
New Market	"	52
Tompkinsville	"	61
Fredonia	"	79
Friendship	"	83
Sawyer	"	93
Newbern	"	102
Shiloh	"	105
Forest Hill	"	110
Sylvan	"	111
Dean	"	112
Midway	"	114
Perryville	"	117
Camp Hill	"	120
Havana	"	123
Felix	"	124
Mortimer Reeder	"	126
Bolivar	"	127
Yorkville	"	131
Roanoke	"	132
Columbia	"	135
Bradford	"	138
Chilton	"	139
Shelby	"	140
Bethel	"	141
Baldwin	"	142
Burleson	"	143
Daleville	"	144
Missouri	"	146
Rodgersville	"	147
Chambers	"	149
Etam	"	150
Nixburg	"	154
Maysville	"	158
Penick	"	161
Buena Vista	"	169
Elba	"	170
Fellowship	"	172
Desotoville	"	178
Brundidge	"	184
Landmark	"	187
Delta	"	189
Brush Creek	"	191
Chattahoochee	"	192
Caledonia	"	198
Sylacauga	"	200
Valley	"	203
Tallassee	No.	237
John Payne	"	245
Harrison	"	246
Cropwell	"	247
Camp Creek	"	251
North Port	"	252
Rose Hill	"	253
Ervin	"	257
Magnolia	"	259
Walnut Grove	"	264
Meridian	"	265
Mount Pleasant	"	266
Pea River	"	271
Larkinsville	"	277
Northern	"	278
Charles Baskerville	"	281
Richmond	"	282
Norris	"	301
Jonesboro	"	315
Cluttsville	"	319
Warrenton	"	320
Holly Grove	"	323
Viola	"	324
Madison Station	"	329
Georgiana Davis	"	338
Clear Creek	"	340
Pikeville	"	344
Sipsey	"	350
Heaton	"	354
Scottsboro	"	359
Houston	"	365
Chandler	"	367
Goliad	"	370
Russellville	"	371
Bell's Landing	"	373
Sauta Creek	"	376
Robert E. Lee	"	379
Ohatchee	"	380
Waterloo	"	382
Trinity	"	386
Newburgh	"	388
Weathers	"	390
Falkville	"	396
Black Oak	"	397
Haw Ridge	"	399
Hanceville	"	400
Childersburg	"	403
Hoboken	"	404
Pondtown	"	409
High Shoals	"	413
George Smith	"	417

LODGES REINSTATED.

Gaston	No. 44	Gaylesville	No. 256
Herndon	" 125	Bullock	" 276
Monroeville	" 153	Gillespie	" 290
Tallassee	" 237		

CHARTERS FORFEITED IN 1877.

Cokerville	No. 75	Youngsville	No. 326
DeKalb	" 116	Ashland	" 356
Orion	" 177	Barbour	" 358
Mount Hilliard	" 180	Ben Pope	" 383
Pine Level	" 202	North Border	" 391
Pleasant Hill	" 321		

FORFEITED, REVOKED, AND CONSOLIDATED.

Numbers 2, 5, 13, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 38, 45, 58, 60, 66, 73, 75, 77, 85, 86, 87, 92, 94, 100, 109, 113, 115, 116, 118, 121, 128, 130, 137, 156, 159, 160, 162, 164, 165, 167, 174, 177, 179, 180, 182, 183, 194, 196, 202, 205, 216, 217, 220, 229, 232, 236, 239, 240, 255, 263, 268, 269, 273, 279, 283, 284, 288, 289, 308, 316, 317, 318, 321, 322, 325, 326, 327, 328, 333, 336, 342, 347, 352, 356, 358, 362, 372, 383, 391, 393, 401.—Total number 96.

RECAPITULATION.

Lodges that were represented	182
Members reported at this Grand Communication	7,829
Dues received at this Grand Communication	$3,935 00
Number of Lodges that paid their dues	248

Work of the Year 1877.

Initiated	277
Passed	252
Raised	242
Affiliated	251
Rejected	64
Dimitted	381
Died	148
Expelled	21
Suspended for unmasonic conduct	16
Suspended for non-payment of Dues	568
Reinstated	250

Condition of the Lodges.

Lodges square upon the books	189
Lodges delinquent for non-representation	116
Charters forfeited, revoked, and consolidated	96
Army numbers	19
Lodges under Dispensation	3
Whole number at the end of the year	423

Notice to Subordinate Lodges.

Officers of Subordinate Lodges, and especially Masters and Secretaries, are requested to take particular notice of the following:

"Every Lodge that shall neglect to make regular returns to the Grand Lodge, or to pay its dues, or fail to be represented in the Grand Lodge for two successive years, or which shall fail to assemble for work for the space of six months, shall be stricken from the books of the Grand Lodge, be deprived of the benefits of masonry, and its charter declared forfeited.—*See Sec.* 22, *Art. VI. of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge.*

CALENDAR OF FULL MOONS,

SHOWING THE

Day of the Week and Month on which every Full Moon Falls, from January 1870, to December 1883, inclusive.

Compiled from DeMorgan, by Brother W. B. Langridge, of Iowa.

Year.....	January.....	February.....	March.....	April.....	May.....	June.....	July.....	August.....	September.....	October.....	November.....	December.....
1870	Mo 17	Tu 15	Th 17	Fri 15	Sat 14	Mo 13	Tu 12	Th 11	Fri 9	Su 9	Mo 7	Th 7
1871	Fri 6	Su 5	Mo 6	We 5	Th 4	Sat 3	Su Mo 2 31	We 30	Th 28	Sat 28	Su 26	Tu 26
1872	Th 24	Sat 23	Su 24	Tu 23	We 22	Fri 21	Sat 20	Su 18	Tu 16	We 16	Tu 15	Su 14
1873	Mo 13	Tu 11	Fri 14	Sat 12	Mo 12	Tu 10	We 9	Fri 8	Sat 6	Su 5	Tu 4	We 3
1874	Fri 2	Su 1	Tu 3	We 1	Fri Su 1 31	Mo 29	Tu 28	Th 27	Fri 25	Su 25	Mo 23	Tu 22
1875	Th 21	Sat 20	Su 21	Tu 20	Th 20	Fri 18	Su 18	Mo 16	We 15	Th [redacted]	Sat 13	Su 12
1876	Tu 10	We 8	Th 9	Sat 8	Mo 8	Tu 6	Th 6	Fri 4	Sat 3	Tu 3	We 1	Fri Sa 1 30
1877	Mo 29	Tu 27	Th 29	Fri 27	Su 27	Mo 25	We 25	Th 23	Sat 22	Mo 22	Tu 20	Th 20
1878	Fri 18	Su 17	Mo 18	We 17	Th 16	Fri 14	Su 14	Mo [redacted]	Th 12	Fri 11	Sat 9	Mo 9
1879	We 8	Th 6	Sat 8	Su 6	Mo 5	We 4	Th 3	Sat Su 2 31	Tu 30	We 29	Fri 28	Sat 28
1880	Tu 26	We 24	Th 25	Sat 24	Mo 24	Tu 22	We 21	Fri 20	Sat 18	Su 17	Tu 16	Th 16
1881	Sat 15	Mo 14	Tu 15	Th 14	Fri 13	Su [redacted]	Mo 11	Tu 9	Th 8	Fri 7	Su 6	Mo 5
1882	We 4	Fri 3	Su 5	Mo 3	We 3	Th 1	Sa Su 1 30	Mo 28	Tu 26	Th 26	Sat 25	Su 24
1883	Tu 23	Th 22	Fri 23	Su 22	Tu 22	We 20	Fri 20	Sat 18	Su 16	Tu 16	We 14	Fri 14

REGISTER OF LODGES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA.

No	NAME.	LOCATION.	COUNTY.	POST OFFICE.	MASTER.	SECRETARY.	COMMUNICAT'N
3	Alabama	Claiborne	Monroe	Perdue Hill	George H. Gray	Theophilus W. Marshall	Sat of or bf fm
4	Rising Virtue	Tuscaloosa	Tuscaloosa	Tuscaloosa	John Snow	John J. Harris	2 and 4 Wed
6	Moulton	Moulton	Lawrence	Moulton	DeWitt C. White	Edward C. McDonald	4 Saturday
7	Macon	Grove Hill	Clarke	Grove Hill	James S. Dickinson	Maybank DuBose	4 Saturday
8	Farrar	Elyton	Jefferson	Elyton	Sam Thompson	Robert A. Terrell	1 Saturday
9	Gilead	Butler	Choctaw	Butler	Seth S. Mellen	Richard B. Smith	3 Saturday
10	Royal White Hart	Clayton	Barbour	Clayton	John A. Foster	Edgar R Quillin	2 and 4 Sat
11	Montgomery	Montgomery	Montgomery	Montgomery	Daniel Sayre	Calvin W. Sayre	1 and 3 Mon
12	Marion	Suggsville	Clarke	Gosport	Samuel Coale	Samuel Forwood	2 Saturday
14	Florence	Florence	Lauderdale	Florence	William B. Wood	James R. Price	Mon of or bfm
16	Athens	Athens	Limestone	Athens	William A. Hine	Samuel Tanner	1 Monday
22	Saint Albans	Linden	Marengo	Linden	Henry A. Woolf	Thomas J. Adams	1 Saturday
24	George Washington	Clinton	Greene	Clinton	Newton C. Pyles	Theodore S. McMillian	2 Saturday
25	Dale	Camden	Wilcox	Camden	Neill McArthur	Solomon D. Bloch	Fri of or bfm
26	La Fayette	Greensboro	Hale	Greensboro	John S. Tucker	Alexander H. Williams	3 Tuesday
27	Selma Fraternal	Selma	Dallas	Selma	William T. Daughtrey	Adolph Jacobson	1 and 3 Mon
28	Marengo	Dayton	Marengo	Dayton	Foster B Terrell	Magnus H. Rockotsh	1 and 3 Friday
29	Rising Sun	Decatur	Morgan	Decatur	George D. Mentz	John W. Gordon	2 Tuesday
31	Autauga	Autaugaville	Autauga	Autaugaville	Benjamin F. Davis	Albert W. McNeel	Last Saturday
36	Washington	Tuscumbia	Colbert	Tuscumbia	William R. Julian	James H. Simpson	2 Saturday
37	Courtland	Courtland	Lawrence	Courtland	Alfred D. Simmons	William S Puryear	Tuesday bfm
39	Wetumpka	Wetumpka	Elmore	Wetumpka	Edmunds Mason	William S. Penick	Sat bf 3 Tues
40	Mobile	Mobile	Mobile	Mobile	William S. Foster	Frederick Graves	Every Mon
41	Livingston	Livingston	Sumter	Livingston	John Gideon Harris	Isaiah C. Brown	4 Friday
42	Hiram	Jacksonville	Calhoun	Jacksonville	William M. Hames	William H. Dean	1 Monday
43	Leighton	Leighton	Lawrence	Leighton	Joseph M. Kumpe	William McCormack	Wed bf 1 Sun
44	Gaston	Warsaw	Sumter	Warsaw	John B. Lanford	Radford E. Mobley	1 Wednesday
46	Harmony	Eufaula	Barbour	Eufaula	James Milton	John C. Thomas	2 and 4 Sat
47	Warren	Kingston	Autauga	Kingston	William L Golsan	George W. Duramus	3 Saturday
49	Demopolis	Demopolis	Marengo	Demopolis	Edward H. C. Bailey	Morris Mayer	1 and 3 Sat
50	Union	Uniontown	Perry	Uniontown	John W. Bush	John Henry White	2 Thursday
52	New Market	New Market	Madison	New Market	James M. Davis	Robert J. Johnson	3 Saturday
53	Greening	Evergreen	Conecuh	Evergreen	Pinckney D. Bowles	Young M. Rabb	Saturday bfm
54	Amity	Eutaw	Greene	Eutaw	James B. Head	Frederick H. Braune	1 Monday
55	Mount Moriah	Pickensville	Pickens	Pickensville	John H. Stinson	Clement B. Davis	2 Thur & 4 Sat
56	Troy	Troy	Pike	Troy	Josiah Jernigan	Joel D. Murphree	1 and 3 Sat
57	Tuskegee	Tuskegee	Macon	Tuskegee	James A. Bilbro	Albert S. Harper	1 and 3 Mon
59	Benton	Benton	Lowndes	Benton	John J. Steele	Thomas J. Earnest	1 Sa & Sa bf fm
61	Tompkinsville	Tompkinsville	Choctaw	Tompkinsville	William R. Horn	John Wesley Johnston	1 Saturday

60	Saint John's	Union Springs	Bullock	Union Springs	Isaiah A. Wilson	Robert C. Jelks	1 & 3 Friday
61	Social	Enon	Bullock	Enon	Newton P. Banks	Dunstan M. Banks	1 Saturday
64	Eureka	Greenville	Butler	Greenville	James A. Reid	Albert W. Metcalf	Every Friday
65	Liberty	Liberty Hill	Dallas	Martin's Station	Joseph A. Groves	Samuel W. Pegues	4 Saturday
67	Hampden Sidney	Robinson Spring	Elmore	Prattville	Andrew W. Rucker	Samuel H. Gibbons	3 Saturday
68	Holsey	Glennville	Russell	Glennville	Americus C. Mitchell	Sewell C. Woodfolk	4 Saturday
69	Howard	Mobile	Mobile	Mobile	Oliver S. Beers	Philip C. Candidus	1 & 3 Tues
70	Central	Montevallo	Shelby	Montevallo	Edward G. Walker	George W. Riggs	Sat bfm
71	Tohopeka	Dadeville	Tallapoosa	Dadeville	Allen D. Sullivant	Bertold Sternberg	3 Saturday
72	Widow's Son	Snow Hill	Wilcox	Snow Hill	George A. Barge	Wm. G. W. Albritton	Sat bfm
74	Solomon	La Fayette	Chambers	La Fayette	James M. Driver	James F. Scarbrough	1 & 3 Sat
76	Auburn	Auburn	Lee	Auburn	George P. Harrison Jr.	Patrick H. Swanson	1 Friday
78	Crozier	White Plains	Calhoun	White Plains	William Johnston	Allen N. Ward	Sat bfm Sab
79	Fredonia	Fredonia	Chambers	Fredonia	William J. Grady	George A. Hill	Friday bfm
80	Wilcox	Allenton	Wilcox	Allenton	Joseph B. McWilliams	Joseph P. Benson	Friday bfm
81	Saint Stephens	Saint Stephens	Washington	Saint Stephens	John W. Gorty	John S. Elliott	2 Saturday
82	Bellefonte	Bellefonte	Jackson	Bellefonte	Nelson Kyle	George W. Angel	4 Friday
83	Friendship	Centreville	Bibb	Centreville	James W. Crawford	Edward C. Cleveland	1 Saturday
84	Erophotic	Braggs	Lowndes	Braggs	Daniel Haygood	Alfred H. Lee	Sat bfm
85	Meridian Sun	Pleasant Hill	Dallas	Pleasant Hill	James A. Wood	William R. Smelly	Friday bfm
86	Prattville	Prattville	Autauga	Prattville	Llewelyn Spigener	Jacob Faber	Mon of or bfm
90	Pfister	McKinley	Marengo	McKinley	William T. Jackson Jr.	Francis M. Danshy	1 Wednesday
91	Henry	Abbeville	Henry	Abbeville	Hasting J. Owens	James W. Stokes	2 & 4 Sat
92	Sawyer	Wedowee	Randolph	Wedowee	John Reaves	William F. Connelly	1 & 3 Sat
93	Danville	Danville	Morgan	Danville	Simeon P. Lovelady	Jesse J. Woodall	4 Saturday
96	Tuckabatchee	Crawford	Russell	Crawford	David D. Kent	Robert Horn	2 & 4 Sat
97	Lozabatchee	Goshen	Cherokee	Ladiga	James M. Amberson	Hampton W. Glover	Tues bfm & Sat
98	Fulton	Orrville	Dallas	Orrville	Philip M. [illegible]	John W. Lovett	3 Friday
99	Salem	Salem	Lee	Salem	Isaac N. Preston	William T. Tatum	2 & 4 Sat
101	Hartwell	Oxford	Calhoun	Oxford	Stephen C. Williams	Thomas H. Parry	4 Saturday
103	Benson	Maplesville	Chilton	Maplesville	James L. Williams	David A. White	3 Saturday
104	Good Samaritan	Dudleyville	Tallapoosa	Dudleyville	Charles H. Sims	William C. Jenkins	Sat bfm Sab
105	Shiloh	Hampden	Marengo	Hampden	Edmond M. Vick	Thomas A. Robinson	3 Saturday
106	Hermon	Sumterville	Sumter	Sumterville	Benjamin F. Hendon	William H. Brown	Sat bfm
107	Choctaw	Pushmataha	Choctaw	Pushmataha	Lemuel J. Mooney	Joseph M. Gilder	4 Saturday
108	Oak Bowery	Oak Bowery	Chambers	Gold Hill—Lee	Robert H. Harris	John T. Hester	1 & 3 Sat
110	Forest Hill	Pleasant Grove	Pickens	Pleasant Grove	Joseph P. Barnett	Louis A. Lavender	2 Saturday
112	Dean	Brooklyn	Conecuh	Brooklyn	Andrew J. Robinson	Aaron F. Feagin	2 Saturday
114	Midway	Society Hill	Macon	Society Hill	Thaddeus W. Brunson	George D. Richardson	4 Saturday
117	Perryville	Perryville	Perry	Perryville	Thomas L. Vaughan	George W. Pardue	3 Saturday
118	Notasulga	Notasulga	Macon	Notasulga	Benjamin F. Johnson	Lucius C. Ramsey	2 & 4 Sat
120	Camp Hill	Camp Hill	Tallapoosa	Camp Hill	Walter R. Dawson	Rolly R. Spinks	2 Saturday
122	Coffeeville	Coffeeville	Clarke	Coffeeville	Thomas J. Cowan	Andrew J. Pace	4 Saturday

REGISTER OF LODGES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA.

No	NAME.	LOCATION.	COUNTY.	POST OFFICE.	MASTER.	SECRETARY.	COMMUNICAT'N
123	Havana	Havana	Hale	Havana	George H. Sheldon	William S. Bishop	1 Wed
125	Hern ion	Union	Greene	Union	John W. Hardy	James T. Smith	4 Sat
126	Mortimer Reeder	Rock Springs	Lee	Loachapoka	Hiram M. Wilson	Samuel A. Burns	2 & 4 Sat
129	Geneva	Geneva	Geneva	Geneva	John F. Register	Thomas H. Yarbrough	2 Sat
131	Yorkville	Yorkville	Pickens	Yorkville	Samuel C. Nabers	Washington Pridmore	1 Sat
133	Loachapoka	Loachapoka	Lee	Loachapoka	Wiley W. Bloodworth	John W. Peddy	2 & 4 Tues
134	Wiley	Farriorville	Bullock	Linwood M. G. R.	Aaron W. Bean	Abijah Haley	1 & 3 Sat
136	Unity	Lower Peach Tree	Wilcox	Lower Peach Tree	Kos-uth A. Mayer	James W. Gibson	4 Sat
138	Bradford	Kellyton	Coosa	Kellyton	Stephen M. Pearson	Joseph B. Simpson	2 Sat
139	Chilton	La Place	Macon	Shorter's	William D. Boyd	Sampson B. Cloud	1 & 3 Sat
140	Shelby	Columbiana	Shelby	Columbiana	William M. McMath	James T. Leeper	Last Sat
141	Bethel	Arbachoochee	Cleburne	Arbachoochee	Robert U. McCaghren	Elijah A. Teague	2 Sat
142	Baldwin	Stockton	Baldwin	Stockton	James M. Vaughn	George W. Robinson	2 Sat
143	Burleson	Burle on	Franklin	Burleson	William H. Thorn	James M. Thorn	1 Sat
144	Daleville	Daleville	Dale	Daleville	Esau Brooks	Daniel K. Thomas	1 Sat
145	Fraternity	Blountsville	Blount	Blountsville	Joshua Ratliff	Edmund N. Wood	1 & 3 Sat
147	Rodgersville	Rodgersville	Lauderdale	Rodgersville	Joseph Ingram	William J. T. Stapler	1 Sat
148	Cold Water	Vance's Station	Tuscaloosa	Smallwood	Michael Y. Hayes	William Vance	Sat bf 3 Sab
151	Bladon Springs	Bladon Springs	Choctaw	Bladon Springs	George H. McKee	George W. Knight	3 Sat
152	Mt. Jefferson	Shady Grove	Lee	Opelika	Alsa M. Hunley	Wiley W. Jones	3 Sat
153	Monroeville	Monroeville	Monroe	Monroeville	John De Loach	Randall C. McDonald	2 Sat
154	Nixburg	Nixburg	Coosa	Nixburg	William L. Johnson	John J. Bryant	Sat bf 1 Sab
155	Eastaboga	Eastaboga	Talladega	Eastaboga	Benjamin F. Burns	Alonzo Montgomery	3 Sat
157	Somerville	Somerville	Morgan	Somerville	Henry M. Mason	Monroe T. Swift	Sat of or bfm
158	Maysville	Maysville	Madison	Maysville	Leroy B. Campbell	William L. Giles	On or bfm
163	Fa't'v'e Authentic	Fayetteville	Talladega	Childersburg	Kinion J. Thomas	Michael S. Bennett	2 Sat
166	Sumter	Gaston	Sumter	Gaston	Charles F. Threadgill	John N. Gilmore	4 Sat
168	Mount Hope	Mount Hope	Lawrence	Mount Hope	Benj. F. McGaughy	Samuel H. Radford	Sat bf 3 Sab
169	Buena Vista	Sardis Church	Bullock	Union Springs	William D. Hooks	John B. Martin	3 Sat
171	Clopton	Barnes' X Roads	Dale	Barnes' X Roads	John H. Weed	William Patterson	2 & 4 Sat
172	Fellowship	Fellowship	Pickens	Reform	Andrew S. Moore	Gideon R. Langdon	4 Sat
173	Andrew Jackson	Montgomery	Montgomery	Montgomery	Stephen H. Beasley	Charles A. Allen	1 & 3 Tues
175	Ezel	Dublin	Montgomery	Raif Ranch	Oliver C. Rushton	David M. Huffman	4 Sat
176	Davie	Indian Creek	Bullock	Arbor Vitæ	Reuben Cope	Thomas J. Cope	4 Sat
180	Mount Hilliard	Mount Hilliard	Bullock	Mount Hilliard	James B. Hutchison	Elijah M. McCreless	3 & 4 Sat
181	Aberfoil	Aberfoil	Bullock	Aberfoil	Micaijah L. Stinson	Roderick Bethune	1 Sat
185	Mount Eagle	New Site	Tallapoosa	New Site	Richard H. Hunt	John T. Crenshaw	3 Sat
186	Cataula	Ashville	Saint Clair	Ashville	Elisha J. Robinson	William T. Hodges	1 Sat
188	Clintonville	Clintonville	Coffee	Clintonville	Alfred McGee	Thomas J. Fleming	3 Sat

190	Tombigbee	Jefferson	Marengo	Jefferson	John W. Jones	James E. Adams	3 Sat
191	Brush Creek	Brush Creek	Perry	Marion	Thomas F. Hall	Sid W. Blackburn	Sat bfm
192	Chattahoochee	Berlin	Chambers	Osanippa	James R. P. Chambers	Timothy Collins	2 & 4 Sat
193	High Log	Hopewell	Bullock	Mitchell's	George Stowers	Lorenzo D. Morris	1 Sat
195	Opelika	Opelika	Lee	Opelika	William J. Samford	Milton F. Echols	2 & 4 Tues
197	Hillabee	Good Water	Coosa	Pinckneyville	Martin G. Slaughter	John R. Gilbert	Sat bf 2 Sab
198	Caledonia	Gordon	Henry	Gordon	Edward V. Pearre	Nat Pace	2 & 4 Sat
199	Killigee	Chanahatchee	Elmore	Chanahatchee	Nathan Sanders	Thomas J. McDonald	2 Sat
200	Sylacauga	Sylacauga	Talladega	Sylacauga	Lewis H. Crumpler	James M. Lanning	3 Sat
201	Helicon	Helicon	Crenshaw	Helicon	William H. Posey	James R. Ruff	2 Sat
203	Valley	Wacoochee Val.	Lee	Smith's Station	Oswell Albright	William Craps	1 & 3 Sat
204	Manning Spring	Manning Spring	Montgomery	Mount Meigs	James McDade	Charles E. McDade	2 & 4 Sat
206	Moscow	Mo-cow	Lamar	Moscow	Robbert J. Redden	Daniel W. Hollis	Sat of or bfm
207	Pettusville	Elkmont	Limestone	Elkmont	Joseph C. Wallace	David T. Phillips	2 Fri
208	Alexandria	Alexandria	Calhoun	Alexandria	Samuel D. McClelan	Emmett F. Crook	Sat bf 4 Sab
209	Marshall	Guntersville	Marshall	Guntersville	Solomon Palmer	Thomas B. Lusk	1 & 3 Sat
210	Ebenezer	Spring Hill	Barbour	Harris	James M. Barr	John W. Comer	2 & 4 Sat
211	York	Jasper	Walker	Jasper	Leroy Williams	Thomas P. Lamkin	Fri bfm
212	Putnam	Louina	Randolph	Louina	Francis M. Handley	Joseph H. Mooty	1 & 3 Sat
213	Euclid	Fort Browder	Barbour	Fort Browder	Thomas J. Reeves	William H. Pruitt	1 & 3 Sat
215	Builders	At the Lodge	Talladega	Alpine	Clayborne H. Gorman	Richard E. Cook	1 Sat
218	Sam Dixon	Centre	Cherokee	Centre	Reuben T. Ewing	David C. Daniel	1 Sat
221	Tensaw	Montgomery Hill	Baldwin	Tensaw	Adolph Feist	Robert W. Slaughter	4 Sat
222	Western Star	Cuba Station	Sumter	Cuba Station	Isaac R. McElroy Jr	Archibald C. Webb	1 Sat
223	Sandy Ridge	Sandy Ridge	Lowndes	Sandy Ridge	William W. Stone	Andrew J. Perry	Sat bf 1 Sab
224	Newton	Newton	Dale	Newton	Richard A. Ramsey	John R. Kelly	1 Sat
225	Louisville	Louisville	Barbour	Louisville	Christopher C. Lee	James A. Lampley	1 & 3 Sat
226	Santa Fe	Jackson	Clarke	Jackson	Lamartine O. Hicks	Isham Kimbell	3 Sat
227	James Penn	Clopton	Dale	Clopton	William J. Williams	John W. Simmons	4 Sat
228	Dallas	Chulafinnee	Cleburne	Chulafinnee	Kinchen Morris	John W. McClintock	3 Sat
233	Sepulga	Starlington	Butler	Georgiana	Dozier D. Bennett	Joseph A. Bennett	3 Sat
234	Isney	Isney	Choctaw	Isney	David L. Peel	Joel B. Wagner	3 Sat
235	Harpersville	Harpersville	Shelby	Harpersville	William A. O'Hara	William R Singleton	4 Sat
237	Tallassee	Tallassee	Tallapoosa	East Tallassee	John F. Ashurst	Millard F. Smith	Sat bfm
238	Fairmount	Fairmount	Covington	Fairmount	Augustus W. Deens	Alexander G. Atkison	2 Sat
241	Bowen	Whistler	Mobile	Whister	Theodore Tiedeman	Thomas Halliwell	1 & 3 Sat
242	Coosa	Bruyckville	Elmore	Sykes' Mill	Isaac C. Hall	W. K. Whetstone	2 Sat
243	Ramer	Ramer	Montgomery	Ramer	Anthony H. Sellers	Arthur L. Guice	1 & 3 Sat
244	Dawson	Oaky Streak	Butler	Oaky Streak	Joseph S. Saaders	John T. Watson	Sa bf 1 & 3 Sab
246	Harrison	Henderson	Pike	Henderson	John A. Law	Henry M. Bradley	4 Sat
248	Lawrence	Lawrenceville	Henry	Lawrenceville	Newell M. Thornton	Nathaniel L. Hawley	2 Sat
249	Toluca	Toluca	Butler	Greenville	Thomas A. McCane	David L. Milton	Sat bf 2 Sab
250	Amand	Chestnut Creek	Chilton	Verbena	Moses D. Pinson	Wilbur F. Claughton	4 Sat

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251	Camp Creek	Honoraville	Crenshaw	Honoraville	John A. Stringer	Arrington L. Nichols	1 Sat
252	North Port	North Port	Tuscaloosa	North Port	Henry H. Brown	Josiah H. Freeman	3 Sat
254	Quitman	East Georgia	Butler	Georgiana	Philo D. Rigsby	Thomas M. J. Porter	4 Sat
256	Gaylesville	Gaylesville	Cherokee	Gaylesville	Samuel L. Russell	Leonidas D. Griffitts	4 Fri
257	Ervin	Holly Grove	Walker	Holly Grove	David Manasco	George W. McDade	4 Sat
258	Randolph	Randolph	Bibb	Bibb Mills	Hiram M. Hays	William J. Ruddick	4 Sat
259	Magnolia	Mobile	Mobile	Mobile	Theodore L Eastburn	Wright O. Smith	2 Wed
260	Bellville	Bellville	Conecuh	Bellville	Anthony D. Sampey	Henry S. Skinner	Sat bf 2 Sab
261	Talladega	Talladega	Talladega	Talladega	James H. Joiner	Henry H. Hamill	1 Fri
262	Highland	Highland	Shelby	Highland	Robert F. Johnson	John Acton	1 Sat
265	Meridian	Meridianville	Madison	Bell Factory	George C. Saunders	James M. Jones	1 Fri
266	Mount Pleasant	Mount Pleasant	Monroe	Mount Pleasant	Joseph W. Shomo	William M. Ferrell	2 Sat
267	Wind Creek	Wind Creek	Tallapoosa	Dadeville	John Y. Johnston	John K. Humphress	2 & 4 Sat
270	Butler Springs	Montery	Butler	Montery	Thomas H. Barge	James M. Smith	Sat bf 3 Sab
272	Clifton	Clifton	Wilcox	Clifton	William A. Kimbrough	Jere T. Dumas	1 Sat
274	Paint Rock	Woodville	Jackson	Woodville	La Fayette Derrick	Irwin Hawkins	Sat of or bfm
275	Frankfort	Frankfort	Franklin	Frankfort	Amos L. Moody	William R Petree	Sat bf 2 Sab
276	Bullock	Bullock	Crenshaw	Bullock	William B. Colquett	John W. Colquett	2 Sat
278	Northern	New Hope	Madison	New Hope	Joseph F. Ellett	George W. Childers	Sat of or bfm
280	Springville	Springville	Saint Clair	Springville	Andrew J. Nunnelly	Ira J. Spruiell	Sat bf 3 Sab
281	Charles Baskerville	Fayette C. H.	Fayette	Fayette C. H.	Absalom J. Renfrow	Gustavus Legg	Sat bf 4 Sab
285	Georgiana	Georgiana	Butler	Georgiana	Pinkney M. Bruner	Elisha C. Milner	1 & 3 Sat
286	Walker	Arkadelphia	Blount	Arkadelphia	Charles Drennen	John H Willoughby	Sat bf 2 Sab
287	Clinton	Skipperville	Dale	Skipperville	Levi Wilkinson	James M. Williams	2 & 4 Sat
290	Gillespie	Randolph's	Fayette	Randolph's			
291	Fort Deposit	Fort Deposit	Lowndes	Fort Deposit	Alvin McDaniel	Meshack M. Hammonds	2 & 4 Sat
301	Norris	Pollard	Escambia	Pollard	William J. O'Bannon	William H. Hawkins	1 Sat
304	Zion	Pine Grove	Fayette	Montcalm	Terrell M. Reese	Nathan A. Musgrove	Sat bf 3 Sab
305	Central City	Selma	Dallas	Selma	George R. Boyd	Alexander G. Wilson	2 & 4 Wed
315	Jonesboro'	Jonesboro'	Jefferson	Jonesboro'	Frank Prince	Thomas McAdory	2 Sat
319	Cluttsville	Cluttsville	Madison	Cluttsville	John J. Bronaugh	Hugh L. Toney	4 Sat
320	Warrenton	Warrenton	Marshall	Warrenton	James L. Sheffield	John H. Fennell	2 & 4 Sat
323	Holly Grove	Holly Grove	Jackson	Princeton	James M. Thompson	James H Cowan	2 & 4 Sat
324	Viola	Chepultepec	Blount	Chepultepec	William H Edwards	William G. H Crump	2 Sat
329	Madison Station	Madison Station.	Madison	Madison Station.	John B. Lecmon	Jeremiah F. Inmon	1 Sat
330	Forkland	Forkland	Greene	Forkland	George C. Arrington	William B. Inge	Thurs bfm
331	Charity	Six Mile.	Bibb	Montevallo	Richard H. Pratt	Edward M. Carleton	2 Sat
332	Blue Eye	Lincoln	Talladega	Lincoln	Thomas J. Brewer	James M. Montgomery	2 Sat
334	Oliver	Choctaw Corner	Clarke	Choctaw Corner	Horatio C. Grayson	Stephen M Gilmore	1 Sat

335	Nanafalia	Nanafalia	Marengo	Nanafalia	Benjamin W. Terry	David P. Barr	3 Sat
337	Johnson	Mount Ida	Crenshaw	New Providence	John D. Massey	Henry D. Curtis	3 Sat
339	Albert Pike	Cherokee	Colbert	Cherokee	Ignatius T Cooper Jr.	William H. Avery	Tues bfm
340	Clear Creek	Sardis Church	Winston	Larissa	Andrew J. Ingle	Thomas G. Dupree	1 Sat
341	Ragan	Davisville	Calhoun	Davisville	Robert G. Ragan	Robert L. Ragan	Thur bf 4 Sab
343	Summit	Summit	Blount	Summit	James W. Jones	Eli Foust	4 Sat
344	Pikeville	Pikeville	Marion	Pikeville	Meredith T. Akers	Madison M. Frazier	4 Sat
345	Echo	Echo	Dale	Echo	Mathew R. Howell	Calvin Barnes	2 & 4 Sat
347	Hurtville	Hurtville	Russell	Hurtville	Malichi L. Long	Edward N. Brown	3 Sat
348	Bienville	Mobile	Mobile	Mobile	William T. Walthall	James T. Overbey	1 & 3 Tues
349	Ozark	Ozark	Dale	Ozark	Avent W. Cotton	Elmore W. Griffith	1 & 3 Sat
351	Wilson Williams	Girard	Lee	Columbus, Geo.	James T. Holland	James K. Rentfrow	2 & 4 Thurs
353	Rock Mills	Rock Mills	Randolph	Rock Mills	George W. Taylor	Thomas J. Thomason	2 & 4 Sat
354	Heaton	Carter's Store	Randolph	Carter's Store	Burrell J. Word	Reuben G. Cole	2 & 4 Sat
355	Van Buren	Van Buren	DeKalb	Collinsville	Solon E. Heard	Francis M. Roberts	2 Fri
357	Rutledge	Rutledge	Crenshaw	Rutledge	John A. Padgett	Edmund H. Johnson	2 Sat
358	Barbour	Carthage	Tuscaloosa	Carthage, Hale	John A. Perry	John D. Blocker	2 Sat
360	Newtonville	Newtonville	Fayette	Newtonville	William W. Jones	William T Olive	Sat bf 1 Sab
361	Town Creek	Town Creek	Lawrence	Town Creek	Alexander P. Odom	Wesley C. Brackin	2 & 4 Thurs
363	Chester	Warrior	Jefferson	Warrior Station	Secretary W Chappell	John Bush	4 Sat
364	Pleasant Site	Pleasant Site	Franklin	Pleasant Site	David M. McMurray	James H. Drake	3 Sat
366	Cotaco	Skeamers	Morgan	Apple Grove	P——. M. Garrett	M——. W. Ratliff	Sat bfm
367	Chandler	Edwardsville	Cleburne	Edwardsville	Thomas J. Burton	William B. Furguson	1 Mon & 3 Sat
368	Cross Plains	Cross Plains	Calhoun	Ladiga	Thomas P. Savage	Francis M Savage	Sat bf 4 Sab
369	Athelstan	Mobile	Mobile	Mobile	Thomas P. Brewer	Gabriel L. Long	Every Thurs
373	Bell's Landing	Bell's Landing	Monroe	Bell's Landing	William H. Abernathy	Alexander T. Howard	Sat bf 1 Sab
374	Lodor	Seale	Russell	Seale	Charles L. Williams	Edward Herndon Glenn	2 & 4 Sat
375	Gainesville	Gainesville	Sumter	Gainesville	Edward N. Kring	Robert G. Neilson	Sat of or bfm
376	Sauta Creek	Hillian's Store	Marshall	Meltonville	Christopher Grigg	Edward Winston	2 Sat
377	Lake City	Lake City	Covington	Lake City	Alexander McSwain	Murray A. Cawthon	4 Sat
379	Robert E. Lee	Pine Apple	Wilcox	Pine Apple	Neil B. Mathews	Nathan Lobman	2 Sat
381	E. H. Cook	Rehoboth	Wilcox	Rehoboth	John H. Malone	John W. Gaston	2 Thurs
383	Ben Pope	Attalla	Etowah	Attalla	Samuel H. Wilson	John W. Duncan	2 Sat
384	Birmingham Fra.	Birmingham	Jefferson	Birmingham	Mortimer H. Jordan	John P. Hutchison	2 & 4 Mon
385	Munford	Munford	Talladega	Munford	Robert T. Conley	John J. Weatherly	2 Sat
386	Trinity	Trinity	Morgan	Trinity	Jasper N. Wade	William Q. Sewell	Sat of or bfm
387	Blue Spring	Blue Spring	Henry	Gordon	Thomas S. Stapleton	Hilliard J. Askew	1 & 3 Sat
388	Newburg	Newburg	Franklin	Newburg	Wesley M. Smith	Thomas H. Moore	Sat bf 4 Sab
389	Vernon	Vernon	Lamar	Vernon	Thomas W. Springfield	Martin W. Morton	2 Sat
390	Weathers	Wesobulga	Clay	Blake's Ferry	James W. Swan	Martin V. Mullin	Sat of or bfm
391	North Border	Salem Church	Limestone	Mount Rozelle	Robert S. Patrick	James C. Gordon	1 Sat
392	Hickory Flat	Hickory Flat	Chambers	Hickory Flat	Andrew J. Thompson	Nathaniel E. Baker	1 & 3 Sat
394	Valley Head	Valley Head	DeKalb	Valley Head	James M. Price	George M D. Lowry	4 Fri

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395	Opelika	Opelika	Lee	Opelika	Isaac Heyman	Heineman Blumenfeld	1 & 3 Thurs
396	Falkville	Falkville	Morgan	Falkville	James T. Morris	Felix G. Srygley	On or bfm
398	Hartselle	Hartselle	Morgan	Hartselle	John F. Turney	Andrew A. Oden	2 Sat
399	Haw Ridge	Haw Ridge	Coffee	Haw Ridge, D	Nathan B. Peacock	Samuel D. Clark	2 Sat
400	Hanceville	Hanceville	Blount	Hanceville	William M. Kilpatrick	James P. Green	2 & 4 Sat
402	Green Hill	Green Hill	Lauderdale	Green Hill	Henry A. Killen	Burris C. West	Sat on or bfm
403	Childersburg	Childersburg	Talladega	Childersburg	Richard E R Hicks	Henry J. Cliett	Sat bf 3 Sab
404	Hoboken	Hoboken	Marengo	Pineville	Stephen S. Etheridge	Edmond D. Little	1 Sat
405	Blount Springs	Blount Springs	Blount	Blount Springs	John P. Willoughby	William S Self	Sat bf 1 Sab
406	Doric	Tallasse	Elmore	Tallassee	Edward B. McCluskey	John F. Daniel	Sat afm
407	North River	North River	Tuscaloosa	North River	Isaac M. Whitney	James G Bell	Sat bf 2 Sab
408	Hillsboro	Hillsboro	Lawrence	Hillsboro	Benjamin M. Simpson	Robert F. Bentley	Sat of or afm
409	Pondtown	Pondtown	Geneva	Geneva	Wilson Boswell	Thomas Blunt	3 Sat
410	Helena	Helena	Shelby	Helena	John L. Davis	Horace W. Bowers	2 & 4 Sat
411	Jemison	Jemison	Chilton	Strasburg	Joel M. Smitherman	Zadok D. Robinson	Sat of or bfm
412	Amberson	Amberson	Cherokee	Spring Garden	Thomas H. Amberson	Thomas N. White	Sat bf 1 Sab
415	Oak Level	Oak Level	Cleburne	Oak Level	James P. Lawler	Wilson P. Howell	1 & 3 Sat
416	Williamsburg	Williamsburg	Jefferson	Birmingham	Calvary Williams	John E. Williams	4 Sat
417	George Smith	Toad Vine	Jefferson	Lisbon	George W. Smith	Samuel J. Huey	3 Sat
419	Hilton	Blooming Grove	Walker	Clear Creek Falls	James Hilton	Benjamin F. Tingle	4 Sat
421	Cullman Fraternal	Cullman	Cullman	Cullman	Richard H. L. Whorton	John W. Wheat	1 & 3 Fri
422	Shorterville	Shorterville	Henry	Shorterville	Thomas B. Clark	Reason W. Irwin	Sa bf 1 & 3 Sab
423	Clanton	Clanton	Chilton	Clanton	William D. Sartor	Isaac D. Lanier	1 Sat

What the Lodges Say.

GILEAD No. 9.—No seal; lost by fire; ordered one from New York; not yet received.

WETUMPKA No. 39.—Sent three young ladies to school during the last year.

EUREKA No. 64.—Condition of the Lodge improved during the last 12 months. Had to improve the Lodge-room, but now out of debt. Lost some good members by death, by operation of law, and by removal; but hope to get some of them back when times become better. Our charities have not been extensive, but have tried to do our duty.

SHILOH No. 105.—Brother Bennet, whose death is recorded, was one of the charter members, and a bright jewel. Brother Conner, another member, was master for several years, and highly esteemed for his masonic knowledge.

DEAN No. 112.—Death of Secretary Julius G. Robinson recorded.

CHILTON No. 139.—Lodge Hall has been burnt. Lodge meets but seldom. Communications held in the school-room. In financial difficulties; hope to do better soon.

BETHEL No. 141.—Everything burnt up. Returns made out from recollection.

NIXBURG No. 154.—Lodge in a bad condition. Members live some distance from the Lodge-room, and do not attend regularly.

HARRISON No. 246.—Hard times, money scarce, a long drouth, and a short crop.

E. H. COOK No. 381.—Working harmoniously, and in a prosperous condition.

TRINITY No. 386.—Have had a trying time, but prospects are brightening. Have met monthly without a single exception! Will hold on and hope for better times.

WEATHERS No. 390.—Under our by-laws, all who do not pay their dues by the regular meeting in November, stand suspended.

NORTH PORT No. 391.—Finances will not allow of sending a representative to the Grand Lodge this time. Hope to do better next time.

HARTSELLE No. 398.—Have had a Hall to build and our membership is small.

HAW RIDGE No. 399.—County line runs between the Lodge and the Postoffice; therefore Lodge Hall in Coffee, and P. O. in Dale.

Grand Secretaries and their Address.

0.	Alabama	Daniel Sayre	Montgomery.
1.	Arkansas	Luke E. Barber	Little Rock.
2.	California	Alexander Gurdon Abell	San Francisco.
3.	Colorado	Edward C. Parmelee	Georgetown.
4.	Connecticut	Joseph K. Wheeler	Hartford.
5.	Delaware	William S. Hayes	Wilmington.
6.	District of Columbia	William R. Singleton	Washington.
7.	Florida	DeWitt C. Dawkins	Jacksonville.
8.	Georgia	James Emmett Blackshear	Macon.
9.	Illinois	John F. Burrill	Springfield.
10.	Indiana	John M. Bramwell	Indianapolis.
11.	Iowa	Theodore S. Parvin	Iowa City.
12.	Kansas	John H. Brown	Wyandotte.
13.	Kentucky	Hiram Bassett	Louisville.
14.	Louisiana	James C. Batchelor	New Orleans.
15.	Maine	Ira Berry	Portland.
16.	Maryland	Jacob H. Medairy	Baltimore.
17.	Massachusetts	Charles H. Titus	Boston.
18.	Michigan	Ellery I. Garfield	Detroit.
19.	Minnesota	Azariah T. C. Pierson	Saint Paul.
20.	Mississippi	John L. Power	Jackson.
21.	Missouri	John D. Vincil	Saint Louis.
22.	Nebraska	William R. Bowen	Omaha.
23.	Nevada	Samuel W. Chubbuck	Gold Hill.
24.	New Hampshire	George P. Cleaves	Concord.
25.	New Jersey	Joseph H. Hough	Trenton.
26.	New York	James M. Austin	New York.
27.	North Carolina	Donald W. Bain	Raleigh.
28.	Ohio	John D. Caldwell	Cincinnati.
29.	Oregon	Rockey P. Earhart	Portland.
30.	Pennsylvania	John Thomson	Philadelphia.
31.	Rhode Island	Edwin Baker	Providence.
32.	South Carolina	Charles Inglesby	Charleston.

33.	Tennessee	John Frizzell	Nashville.
34.	Texas	George H. Bringhurst	Houston.
35.	Vermont	Henry Clark	Rutland.
36.	Virginia	William B. Isaacs	Richmond.
37.	West Virginia	Odell S. Long	Wheeling.
38.	Wisconsin	John W. Woodhull	Milwaukee.
39.	Dakota	William E. Caton	Elk Point,
40.	Idaho	Charles Himrod	Boise City.
41.	Montana	Cornelius Hedges	Helena.
42.	New Mexico	David J. Miller	Santa Fe.
43.	Utah	Christopher Diehl	Salt Lake City.
44.	Washington	Thomas Milburne Reed	Olympia.
45.	Wyoming	William G. Tonn	Evanston.
46.	Indian Territory	Rufus P. Jones	Caddo.
47.	Canada	John J. Mason	Hamilton, Ont.
48.	New Brunswick	William F. Bunting	Saint John.
49.	Nova Scotia	Benjamin Curren	Halifax.
50.	Quebec	John H. Isaacson	Montreal.
51.	British Columbia	Coote M. Chambers	Victoria.
52.	Manitoba	John H. Bell	Winnepeg.
53.	Prince Edward Island	B. Wilson Higgs	Charlottetown.
54.	England	John Hervey	London.
55.	Ireland	Samuel B. Oldham, Dep	Dublin.
56.	Scotland	D. Murray Lyon	Edinburgh.
57.	Brazil	Alexander F. DeAmaral	Rio Janerio.
58.	Chili	Jose Maldonado	Valparaiso.
59.	Peru	Charles Prince	Lima.

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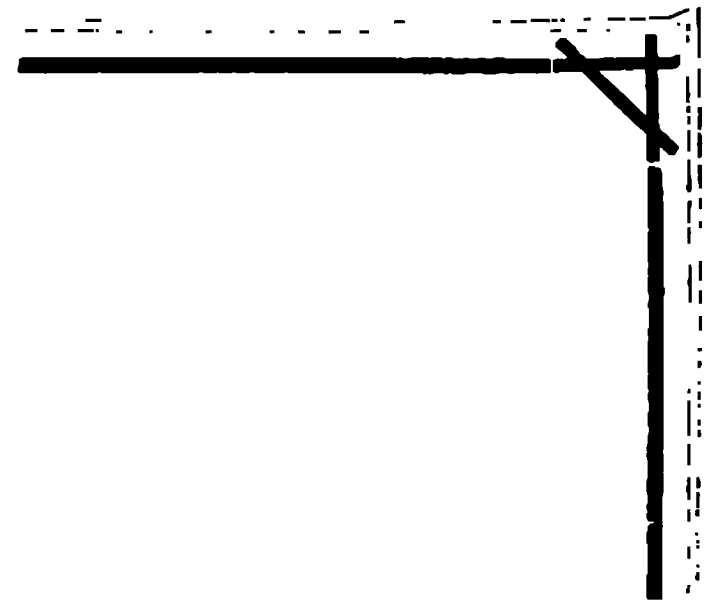

GRAND OFFICERS AND THEIR ADDRESS

FOR 1877-78.

HENRY CLAY ARMSTRONG	Suspension	Grand Master.
HENRY C. TOMPKINS	Union Springs	Deputy Grand Master.
RUFUS W. COBB	Helena	Senior Grand Warden.
JOHN H. BANKHEAD	Moscow	Junior Grand Warden.
WILLIAM H. DINGLEY	Montgomery	Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE	Montgomery	Grand Secretary.
REV. WILLIAM C. BLEDSOE	LaFayette	Grand Chaplain.
JOSEPH M. KUMPE	Leighton	Grand Marshal.
JOSEPH A. ADAMS	Newton	Senior Grand Deacon.
JOHN W. JONES	Jefferson	Junior Grand Deacon.
ADAM R. BAKER	Montgomery	Grand Steward.
JOHN W. MARTIN	Montgomery	Grand Steward.
JAMES DAVIDSON	Montgomery	Grand Tiler.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

OLIVER S. BEERS, ... MOBILE.

NOTICE TO SECRETARIES OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

☞Every Lodge shall elect its officers at the regular Communication immediately preceding the Festival in June, *and make due return to the Grand Secretary* as soon as the Officers are installed, which shall take place as soon as practicable thereafter.—*Constitution of the Grand Lodge, Article VI, Section* 16.

In case Secretaries of Subordinate Lodges should not receive BLANK RETURNS by the 1st of October, or if they should fail to receive these Proceedings in a reasonable time, they are requested to write for them, and inform the Grand Secretary how to forward them.

---

cations of "The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge
pted Masons of Alabama and its Masonsic Juris-
ew Masonic Temple, in the City of Montgomery,
ember of each and every year.

---

*e Proceedings will be sent by successive mails to
cretaries, unless they are sent to the latter in one
t come to hand, they will please write for them, and
to send them.*

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA

FOR

1878.

[58]

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

OF THE

GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA,

HELD IN THE

CITY OF MONTGOMERY,

COMMENCING DECEMBER 2D, A. D. 1878, A. L. 5878.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.
BARRETT & BROWN, STATE PRINTERS.
1879.

PROCEEDINGS.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama and its Masonic Jurisdiction, commenced the Fifty-eighth Annual Grand Communication at the New Masonic Temple, in the City of Montgomery, on the Evening of Monday, the 2d day of December, A. D. 1878, A. L. 5878.

PRESENT:

HENRY CLAY ARMSTRONG.....Grand Master.
HENRY C. TOMPKINS.....Deputy Grand Master.
RUFUS W. COBB.....Senior Grand Warden.
JOHN H. BANKHEAD.....Junior Grand Warden.
WILLIAM H. DINGLEY.....Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE.....Grand Secretary.
REV. WILLIAM C. BLEDSOE.....Grand Chaplain.
STEPHEN H. BEASLEY, *as*.....Grand Marshal.
THOMAS T. ROWLAND, *as*.....Senior Grand Deacon.
JAMES A. BILBRO, *as*.....Junior Grand Deacon.
ADAM R. BAKER.....Grand Steward.
JOHN W. MARTIN.....Grand Steward.
JAMES DAVIDSON.....Grand Tiler.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS:

DAVID CLOPTON.....Grand Master.
WILSON WILLIAMS.....Grand Master.
JOSEPH H. JOHNSON.....Grand Master.
ISAIAH A. WILSON.....Grand Master.
PALMER J. PILLANS.....Grand Master.
SAM THOMPSON.....Deputy Grand Master.
JAMES M. BRUNDIDGE.....Junior Grand Warden.

REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER GRAND LODGES.

Wilson Williams	Arkansas.
Henry A. Woolf	Canada.
David Clopton	Florida, Louisiana.
Joseph H. Johnson	Georgia.
Daniel Sayre	Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Missouri, Nova Scotia, Oregon.
Palmer J. Pillans	Nebraska, Wisconsin.
Oliver S. Beers	New Jersey.
Henry C. Tompkins	New York.
Isaiah A. Wilson	Pennsylvania.

And the Masters, Wardens, and *Proxies*, from Subordinate Lodges, as follows:

No.	1.	Helion	William H. Tancre*	W. M.
"	3.	Alabama	Rufus C. Torrey*	"
"	4.	Rising Virtue	William G. B. Pearson*	"
			William G. Cochrane	S. W.
"	6.	Moulton	DeWitt C. White	W. M.
"	8.	Farrar	Sam Thompson	"
"	9.	Gilead	Oliver C. Ulmer	"
"	10.	Royal White Hart	John A. Foster	"
"	11.	Montgomery	Daniel Sayre	"
			Alfred H. Moses	S. W.
			Emil Kulman	J. W.
"	22.	Saint Albans	Henry A. Woolf	W. M.
"	25.	Dale	Lucky W. Jenkins	"
			Peyton D Burford*	S. W.
"	26.	La Fayette	Charles E. Waller*	"
			Clarence M. Verdell	J. W.
"	27.	Selma Fraternal	Henry F. Mullen*	S. W.
"	29.	Rising Sun	James M. Brundidge*	W. M
"	31.	Autauga	Albert W. McNeel	"
"	36.	Washington	Thomas T. Rowland	S. W.
			John A. Steele*	J. W.
"	39.	Wetumpka	William S. Penick*	W. M.
			Thomas P. Whitby	S. W.
"	40.	Mobile	William S. Foster	W. M.
			John R. Tompkins*	S. W.
"	41.	Livingston	John Gideon Harris	W. M.
"	42.	Hiram	John M. Wyly*	"
"	46.	Harmony	James Milton	"
"	47.	Warren	Derrell F. Duramus*	"
			James D. Duramus*	S. W.
"	49.	Demopolis	C. Boaz Whitfield	J. W.

*Proxies.

No.	50.	Union	John W. Bush	W. M.
"	51.	Jefferson	George W. Bogan*	"
"	52.	New Market	Francisco Rice*	"
"	53.	Greening	George R. Farnham	"
			Young M. Rabb*	S. W.
"	56.	Troy	Josiah Jernigan	W. M.
"	57.	Tuskegee	James A. Bilbro	"
			Jesse L. Adams	S. W.
			Reuben J. Thornton*	J. W.
"	59.	Benton	John C. Grumbles	W. M,
			Aaron Richard	S. W.
			Aquilla Q. R. Trott	J. W.
"	61.	Tompkinsville	William R. Horn	W. M.
"	62.	Saint Johns	James G. Cowan	"
			Robert C. Jelks	J. W.
"	64.	Eureka	William T. Dunklin	S. W.
"	55.	Liberty	Samuel W. Pegues*	W. M.
			John A. Ellerbe	S. W.
"	67.	Hampden Sidney	Andrew W. Rucker	W. M.
			Henry D. Long	S. W.
"	69.	Howard	Oliver S. Beers	W. M.
			Daniel Smith*	S. W.
			Philip C. Candidus*	J. W.
"	71.	Tohopeka	Henry A. Garrett	"
"	72.	Widow's Son	George A. Barge	W. M.
"	74.	Solomon	William C. Bledsoe	S. W.
"	75.	Cokerville	John J. Simpkins*	W. M.
"	76.	Auburn	George P. Harrison Jr	"
"	79.	Fredonia	William J. Grady	"
"	80.	Wilcox	Joseph B. McWilliams	"
"	83.	Friendship	Jesse P. Taylor	J. W.
"	84.	Erophotic	Alfred H Lee	W. M.
"	88.	Meridian Sun	Aaron Maas	"
"	89.	Prattville	Llewelyn Spigener	"
			Washington L. Ellis	J. W.
"	90.	Pfister	William B. Jackson Jr	W. M.
"	91.	Henry	Edward Blacklidge	"
			John R. Blacklidge*	S. W.
			Alexander C. Gordon*	J. W.
"	93.	Sawyer	Charles A. Smith	S. W.
"	96.	Tuckabatchee	David D. Kent	W. M.
"	97.	Lozahatchee	Hampton W. Glover*	"
"	98.	Fulton	Lawrence L. Gaddy*	"
"	99.	Salem	Daniel W. Floyd	"
"	101.	Hartwell	Thaddeus L. Robertson	S. W.
			John F Graham	J. W.
"	102.	Newbern	Louis W. Turpin*	W. M.
"	105.	Shiloh	Thomas H. Bradford*	"
"	106.	Hermon	Joseph R. Ramsey	"
"	110.	Forest Hill	Louis A. Lavender*	"

*Proxies.

No.	111.	Sylvan	George A. Stewart	S. W.
"	117.	Perryville	John A. Fuller	J. W.
"	119.	Notasulga	Ralph T. Armstrong	S. W.
"	120.	Camp Hill	Walter R. Dawson	W. M.
"	123.	Havana	Briggs W. Hopson	J. W.
"	124.	Felix	Haygood Pipkin*	W. M.
			Walter J. Jordan	S. W.
"	126.	Mortimer Reeder	Henry H. Burns	"
"	127.	Bolivar	William K. Spiller	"
"	131.	Yorkville	Thomas T. Gore*	W. M.
"	133.	Loachapoka	Wiley W. Bloodworth	"
			Lewis T. Wimberly*	S. W.
"	135.	Columbia	Edward S. Powers*	W. M.
"	136.	Unity	Kossuth A. Mayer	W. M.
			Charles L. Davis	J. W.
"	138.	Bradford	Stephen M. Pearson	W. M.
"	140.	Shelby	Amos M. Elliott*	S. W.
"	141.	Bethel	Robert U. McCaghren	W. M.
"	142.	Baldwin	David C. Byrne	J. W.
"	143.	Burleson	Robert J. White	S. W.
"	144.	Daleville	Isaac K. Thompson	W. M.
"	145.	Fraternity	John M. Doyle	S. W.
			Camillus Turner*	J. W.
"	146.	Missouri	Isaac M. Johnson	S. W.
"	147.	Rodgersville	Zechariah B. Romine	J. W.
"	148.	Cold Water	Michael Y. Hayes	W. M.
"	149.	Chambers	Benjamin J. Foster	"
"	150.	Etam	Calvin L. Harrell	"
"	153.	Monroeville	John DeLoach	"
"	154.	Nixburg	William L. Johnson	"
"	158.	Maysville	Constantine B. Saunders	S. W.
"	161.	Penick	William C. Cousins	W. M.
			Eli Haynie	S. W.
"	163.	Fayetteville Authentic	Kinion J. Thomas	W. M.
			Oliver P. Looney	S. W.
"	168.	Mount Hope	John M. Clark*	W. M.
"	169.	Buena Vista	William A. Martin	"
"	170.	Elba	Joseph E. P. Flournoy*	"
"	171.	Clopton	James M. Bridges*	"
"	172.	Fellowship	Elias A. Brown	"
"	173.	Andrew Jackson	John Gindrat Winter	"
			Julius Tandy Glaze	S. W.
			Henry C. Davidson	J. W.
"	175.	Ezel	Oliver C. Rushton	W. M.
"	178.	Desotoville	Charles C. McCall	S. W.
"	180.	Mount Hilliard	Benjamin J. Dismukes*	W. M.
"	181.	Aberfoil	Howell L. Peebles*	"
			David E. Nix	J. W.
"	184.	Brundidge	Gustavus Hendrick	W. M.
"	186.	Catawla	Davis E. Cason	"

*Proxies.

No.	187.	Landmark	Richard D. Lucius	W. M.
"	188.	Clintonville	Alfred McGee	"
"	189.	Delta	George W. Ziterow	S. W.
"	190.	Tombigbee	John W. Jones	W. M.
"	191.	Brush Creek	Thomas F. Hall	"
"	192.	Chattahoochee	James R. P. Chambers	"
"	193.	High Log	James T. Armstrong*	"
			Andrew J. Armstrong*	S. W.
"	195.	Opelika	Benjamin H. Rossen*	"
"	197.	Hillabee	Martin G. Slaughter	W. M.
"	198.	Caledonia	Nat Pace	S. W.
"	199.	Kiligee	Nathan Landers	W. M.
"	200.	Sylacauga	Albert J. Crumpler*	"
"	203.	Valley	Oswell Albright	"
"	204.	Manning Spring	Charles McDade*	"
"	208.	Alexandria	Samuel D. McClelen	J. W.
"	209.	Marshall	Rufus K. Boyd	"
"	215.	Builders	Claiborne H. Gorman	W. M.
"	218.	Sam Dixon	Reuben T. Ewing	"
			Samuel K. McSpadden*	S. W.
"	219.	Lineville	Edmund B. Stephens	W. M.
"	221.	Tensaw	Henry J. Hunt*	"
			Thomas P. Atkinson	J. W.
"	223.	Sandy Ridge	John C. Fonville	S. W.
"	224.	Newton	Richard A. Ramsay	W. M.
			Peyton W. Bailey*	S. W.
			John B. Yelverton	J. W.
"	226.	Santa Fe	Frank N. Wynn*	W. M.
"	227.	James Penn	William H. Stuckey	"
			William F. Cureton*	S. W.
"	230.	Bexar	John Arnold	W. M.
"	231.	Duck Spring	Robert M. Crump	S. W.
"	233.	Sepulga	Daniel D. Bennett	W. M.
"	235.	Harpersville	John W. Pitts	"
"	237.	Tallassee	John F. Ashurst	"
			Solomon T. Strickland*	S. W.
"	241.	Bowen	Theodore Tiedeman	W. M.
"	242.	Coosa	Isaac C Hall	"
"	243.	Ramer	Anthony H. Sellars	"
"	244.	Dawson	John F. Lowry*	J. W.
"	246.	Harrison	Andrew J. Bradley	S. W.
"	247.	Cropwell	James D. Truss	W. M.
"	248.	Lawrence	Newell M. Thornton	"
"	250.	Amand	Moses D. Pinson	"
			William N. Jones*	S. W.
"	251.	Camp Creek	Thomas L. Quillian	"
"	252.	North Port	Henry H. Brown	W. M.
"	254.	Quitman	Michael F. Fail	S. W.
"	257.	Ervin	David Manasco	W. M.
"	258.	Randolph	Reden D. Hicks	"

*Proxies.

No.	259.	Magnolia	Theodore L. Eastburn*	W. M.
"	260.	Bellville	Anthony D. Sampey	"
"	261.	Talladega	James H. Joiner	"
			Joseph H. Johnson*	S. W.
			Myles J. Greene*	J. W.
"	262.	Highland	Needham Lee*	W. M.
"	264.	Walnut Grove	John H. Campbell	"
"	265.	Meridian	George C. Saunders*	"
"	266.	Mount Pleasant	James D. Dreisbach*	"
"	270.	Butler Spring	Thomas H. Barge	"
"	271.	Pea River	William T. Chapman	"
"	272.	Clifton	William A. Kimbrough	"
"	277.	Larkinsville	Mason B. Shelton	S. W.
"	278.	Northern	George W. Butler	J. W.
"	281.	Charles Baskerville	Gustavus Legg*	W. M.
"	282.	Richmond	Nicholas J. Hasselvander	J. W.
"	283.	Daviston	John D. Motley*	W. M.
"	285.	Georgiana	Pinkney M. Bruner	"
"	286.	Walker	Charles Drennen	"
"	301.	Norris	William J. O'Bannon	"
"	304.	Zion	William A. Musgrove*	"
"	305.	Central City	Isaac A. McMillan*	"
"	319.	Cluttsville	William A. Pettus	"
"	320.	Warrenton	Ezekiel Couch*	"
"	321.	Pleasant Hill	Riley S. Bottoms*	J. W.
"	323.	Holly Grove	James M. Thompson*	W. M.
"	324.	Viola	Thomas B. Deaver	J. W.
"	329.	Madison Station	George R. Sullivan	W. M.
"	330.	Forkland	Milton W. Hand	S. W.
"	337.	Johnson	Henry D. Curtis*	W. M.
"	338.	Georgiana Davis	George W. Cross*	"
"	340.	Clear Creek	Thomas G. Dupree*	"
"	341.	Reagan	David A. Wright	"
"	344.	Pikeville	Meredith T. Akers	"
"	345.	Echo	William E. Mathews	W. M.
			William G. Peacock*	S. W.
"	346.	Hurtville	Charles D. Hurt	W. M.
			Nimrod W. E. Long	S. W.
"	348.	Bienville	Palmer J. Pillans	W. M.
"	349.	Ozark	Aven W. Cotten	"
			Jesse M. Carmichael	S. W.
"	350.	Sipsey	James Mills jr	W. M
"	354.	Heaton	Burrell J. Word	"
"	357.	Rutledge	John A. Padgett	"
"	358.	Barbour	John D. Blocker	"
"	359.	Scottsboro	Green D. Campbell*	"
"	365.	Houston	Benjamin F. Curtis	S. W.
"	368.	Cross Plains	Alexander McCollister	W. M.
"	369.	Athelstan	Thomas P. Brewer	"
"	371.	Russellville	John Thompson	"

*Proxies

No.	373.	Bell's Landing	Calvin J. Nettles	S. W.
			Henry R. Green	J. W.
"	375.	Gainesville	Edward N. Kring	W. M.
"	376.	Santa Creek	John G. Winston jr	"
"	378.	Weogufka	James T. Thompson	"
			John A. Sears*	S. W.
			Daniel J. Thompson*	J. W.
"	379.	Robert E. Lee	Neal B. Matthews	S. W.
"	380.	Ohatchee	John A. Glenn	W. M.
"	381.	E. H. Cook	John W. Gaston*	"
"	382.	Waterloo	Hiram Richardson	"
"	383.	Ben Pope	John W. Duncan*	"
"	384.	Birmingham Fraternal	Peter Holzschuher*	"
"	386.	Trinity	Lucian K. Burt*	S. W.
"	388.	Newburg	Thomas H. Moore*	W. M.
"	389.	Vernon	Isaac H. Saunders*	"
"	390.	Weathers	William M. Scarborough*	"
"	391.	North Border	Reuben M. Craig	S. W.
"	395.	Opelika	Isaac Heyman	W. M.
"	396.	Falkville	Edward J. Oden	S. W.
"	398.	Hartselle	Andrew A. Oden*	W. M.
"	399.	Haw Ridge	Benjamin F. Warren	S. W.
			Phillip King	J. W.
"	400.	Hanceville	Derrell Cone	W. M.
"	403.	Childersburg	Richard E. R. Hicks	"
"	404.	Hoboken	Stephen J. Etheridge	"
"	406.	Doric	Benjamin F. Barnes	"
"	410.	Helena	Rufus W. Cobb*	"
"	411.	Jemison	Hiram M. Hayes	"
			Seaborn J. Heath	S. W.
			Lawson J. Hand	J. W.
"	412.	Amberson	George D. Hicks	"
"	413.	High Shoals	Bird H. Ford	W. M.
"	415.	Oak Level	James P. Lawler	"
			Alpheus A. Hurst	S. W.
			Wilson P. Howell*	J. W.
"	417.	George Smith	William C. Howton	S. W.
"	421.	Cullman Fraternal	Richard H. L. Whorton	W. M.
"	423.	Clanton	William D. Sartor	"

*Proxies.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form.

Prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, Brother William C. Bledsoe.

The M. W. Grand Master, Henry Clay Armstrong, delivered his Annual Address, and on motion of Brother Senior Grand Warden, it was referred to a special committee, consisting of Brothers P. G. Masters—

Isaiah A. Wilson, of Saint Johns No. 62.
Joseph H. Johnson, of Talladega No. 261.
Wilson Williams, of Opelika No. 395.

GRAND MASTER'S ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Brethren of the Grand Lodge:

Another period of refreshment has passed and we find ourselves again at labor for the good of our beloved Institution. And as we withdraw ourselves from the busy affairs of life, and enter the sacred precincts of our beautiful temple to take into consideration the interest, welfare and common good of the Fraternity within our jurisdiction, I deem it not amiss to suggest that it becomes us to make that searching self-examination which will enable us to understand ourselves as Masons. With what interest, to-day, do we regard those masonic principles of charity, truth and justice which under circumstances of great solemnity and impressiveness were first presented to our benighted minds? What zeal have we for the growth of those moral influences upon our consciences which teach us that we are brothers? How much do we desire the perpetuation of that power which binds us together by the strongest ties? What love have we for those blessed scriptural precepts which have been so beautifully engrafted upon our mystic rites and ceremonies, and which, when observed, "fit our minds as living stones for that temple not made with hands eternal in the heavens?" These and many other questions equally as suggestive, we might with profit ask ourselves as we look down this evening in the great depths of our hearts to see if we are in accord and sympathy with the genius and spirit of Masonry. Brethren, let us ex-

amine ourselves, whether we will be Masons indeed, known and read of all by our upright walk as men! And if upon this examination we have a consciousness of weakness or failure at any point, let us reconsecrate ourselves to the high privilege and duty of henceforth illustrating the excellence of true Masonic character, by an increased devotion to the principles and precepts of our noble Order.

In looking over the past Masonic year we see abundant cause for gratitude to a merciful Providence. Comparatively we have been spared visitation from that terrible plague which within the past few months has swept thousands of our fellow mortals into eternity. While it is true that to some extent we have suffered from it, and have to mourn the loss of many valuable citizens who fell victims to its power, yet its work of devastation and death in our midst is almost as nothing compared with the suffering in some of our sister jurisdictions. New Orleans, Memphis, Vicksburg, Grenada, Canton, and other places, were but recently vast charnel houses for the dead. Their commercial life was stifled, and the homes of their citizens desolated by the fell destroyer. As we remember this we can but feel that indeed we have been blessed, and our hearts should swell with gratitude to our Supreme Grand Master for His gracious deliverance.

We cannot pass the consideration of this subject without referring to the noble self-sacrifice of our brethren of this and other jurisdictions. There are numerous instances where they responded nobly and unselfishly to the cry of the distressed. Even at the risk of life, and often unto death were they faithful in the practice of relief and brotherly love. It is with true Masonic pride that we remember their conduct, and feel, if possible, a stronger attachment than ever to the tenets of our Order.

I take pleasure in informing you that Masonry in our jurisdiction is prosperous. Peace and harmony prevail throughout our borders, and I congratulate the Grand Lodge upon the fact that no questions of a character calculated to disturb the harmony of our deliberations will probably arise.

I received some days since a communication from Brother William J. T. Stapler, Secretary of Rogersville Lodge No. 147, calling attention to

the fact that there were a number of brethren living within the jurisdiction of said Lodge, who some years ago were made Masons in a Tennessee Lodge, McCullom No. 350, and asking what action the Grand Lodge had taken with reference to their cases. I find that P. G. M. Pillans, in his address to the Grand Lodge in 1876, called attention to this matter and requested that some action be had on the subject; which, however, for some cause was not done. I am satisfied from information that I consider entirely reliable, that the brethren who have thus obtained the degrees are good men and true, and at the time they petitioned McCullom Lodge No. 350 of Tennessee, Rogersville Lodge No. 147, in our jurisdiction, was not in working condition. I therefore think there was no intentional disrespect to our jurisdiction; and that the matter may have attention and be definitely determined, I ask that the same, with the communication of Brother Stapler which is herewith submitted, be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

Some time last summer I appointed Brothers J. C. Abercrombie and F. M. Myers, of Tuskegee Lodge No. 57, a committee to take charge of the furniture and jewels of Warrior Stand Lodge No. 115, said Lodge having some years ago forfeited its charter, with instructions to turn the same over to the brethren of Tuskegee Lodge No 57, for their use—theirs having been destroyed by fire. This they did, and said property is now held by them subject to the order of the Grand Lodge.

The following Dispensations have been granted :

To Jemison Lodge No. 411 to elect a W. M., the Master elect being ineligible; also to the following Lodges to elect officers, having, for good cause shown, failed to elect at the time prescribed by the constitution :

Loachapoka Lodge No. 133.

Rising Virtue Lodge No. 4.

Solomon Lodge No. 74.

Barbour Lodge No. 358.

Gaylesville Lodge No. 256.

Central City Lodge No. 305.

The following Lodges, to-wit : Barbour No. 358, Ben Pope No. 383, Pleasant Hill No 321, having forfeited their charters by reason of non-

payment of dues and non-representation, but having paid up all dues for which they were in arrears, and applied for Dispensations to continue their Masonic labors, I authorized them to do so until this communication of the Grand Lodge, and trust that it will be your pleasure to restore their charters.

Granted Dispensations authorizing the removal of the following lodges, being satisfied from representations made that the convenience of the membership would be subserved and the good of Masonry promoted by the change:

Penick Lodge, No. 161, from Central Institute, its former location, to a school house near Pleasant Grove church.

Barbour Lodge, No. 358, from its former location to Big Sandy school house, and

Pleasant Hill Lodge, No. 321, from its former location to Allen's factory.

Declined to grant Dispensations authorizing the consolidation of Opelika Lodge No. 195 and Opelika Lodge No. 395; also, Mobile Lodge No. 40 and Magnolia Lodge No. 259, believing as I do that Article VI, section 23, of the constitution of the Grand Lodge, forbidding the voluntary surrender of a charter, gives authority alone to the Grand Lodge to act in such cases, and so advised the petitioners. I have no doubt Masonry would be benefited by granting these applications, and should they be renewed to the Grand Lodge, would recommend your favorable consideration.

I received in July last from Washington Lodge No. 36, a request, in which seven other lodges joined, to call a special communication of the Grand Lodge to consider a matter that I thought could be disposed of at our regular communication and suffer no detriment by the delay, therefore declined. The purpose that they have in view, as indicated in their communication to me, "is to provide an endowment to the M. M. degree to be paid to the heirs of all Master Masons who participate in the scheme." The object is laudable and praiseworthy, and as a committee has been appointed by Washington Lodge to bring it to your attention, I trust you will give to the matter such consideration as its importance demands.

I submit herewith for your approval or rejection, a synopsis of some of the decisions made by me during the year. I do not deem it necessary to report all of the decisions, as those omitted involve questions of Masonic law which have been repeatedly settled by the Grand Lodge.

Ruled—

That a lodge has no right to pass resolutions of respect to the memory of, or bury with Masonic honors, a brother who at the time of his death was suspended for the non-payment of dues.

Not less than seven Master Masons can hold a lodge. The charter or warrant authorizing lodges to assemble and work is granted to seven Master Masons, and no less a number can open a lodge and transact business than is required to obtain a charter or warrant.

When complaint is made by a Master Mason in good standing (although not a member of the Lodge to which he complains) against a brother, it is the duty of the lodge to which the brother complained of belongs, to investigate the facts; and if the brother complained of is guilty of unmasonic conduct, to prefer charges against him. Absence of the brother complained of from the State, is not a sufficient reason to refuse an investigation.

General worthlessness and the reputation of a common liar is good cause for preferring charges, and if sustained the brother is unworthy Masonic protection, and should be expelled.

That dues against a brother who has been elected Secretary of a lodge continue to run, notwithstanding the fact that the by-laws of the lodge exempt the Secretary from dues, until such time as he has been regularly installed and commenced the discharge of the duties of Secretary; and if in arrears for two years dues, including the time between election and installation, he was liable to suspension for non-payment of dues.

That a subordinate lodge has the right to elect any member thereof who has filled the station of Warden, to the office of Worshipful Master, and the member who is thus elected is entitled to be installed without any reference to Past Master's degree. The Chapter degrees have no connection with the Blue Lodge degrees, and there is nothing in the O. B. of a Chapter Past Master that would prevent his sitting in a lodge or

filling any subordinate office under a Worshipful Master who had never received the Past Master's degree.

A non-affiliated Mason is not entitled to, and should not receive, masonic burial.

A lodge has the right to entertain a petition, from a brother suspended by it, asking to be restored to the rights and privileges of masonry, and may restore him by a two-thirds vote of the Lodge, provided a majority of the whole lodge be present.

Anything that contravenes the moral law is unmasonic. Habitual drunkenness being immoral is, therefore, unmasonic. Temperance is one of the cardinal virtues of our institution, *and its observance ought to be rigidly enforced* by the subordinate lodges.

Ballotings for the degrees should be had at a regular communication of the lodge, but a candidate balloted for and raised at a called communication of the lodge, the membership having been notified by the Secretary of such communication, was legally made and is entitled to all the rights and privileges of a Master Mason. His status cannot be affected by any irregularity had by the lodge as to the time or manner of balloting on his application for the degree.

A lodge that has tried and expelled a non-affiliated Mason, may restore him to the rights and privileges of masonry. It requires a two-thirds vote of all the lodge who are present to restore to the rights and privileges of masonry, provided in all cases a majority of the whole lodge be present. To admit to membership requires a petition as in cases of affiliation, and a unanimous vote of the members present at a regular communication of the lodge.

The jurisdiction of a subordinate lodge extends half way in every direction to the nearest lodge; and a lodge receiving a petition and conferring the degrees upon a party living in the jurisdiction of another lodge, without the consent of such lodge, is liable to the lodge having jurisdiction for the fees.

A lodge in appointing a committee to investigate rumors derogatory to the character of its Worshipful Master, does not violate or conflict with Article VI, section 25, of the constitution of the Grand Lodge.

A lodge cannot try its Master, but may become his accuser, and must furnish to the Grand Lodge, to which the Worshipful Master is alone amenable, evidence to sustain the charges.

That the words "a majority of the members of said lodge," on page 56, proceedings of 1877, allude to a majority of the entire membership of the lodge. Action in such cases must be had in open lodge.

I received on the 21st September official notice from M. W. P. G. M., P. J. Pillans, representative of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, of the death of M. W. Bro. Frank Welch, G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, who passed from earth on Wednesday, Sept. 9, 1878, and at once authorized Bro. Pillans, in behalf of the Grand Lodge of Alabama, to extend to the brethren of Nebraska our sincere and heartfelt sympathy in their sad bereavement. M. W. Bro. Welch was a square stone in the Temple of Masonry, and his brethren of Nebraska say well and truthfully of him, "he was good, and true, and noble; upright and steadfast as became a man; kind and charitable as became a Mason; strong and wise as became a leader."

I received in July last a proclamation from M. W., Melbourne M. Tait, G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, charging the Grand Lodge of Scotland with an invasion and infringement of jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and suspending all intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and declaring all lodges formed under authority of the Grand Lodge of Scotland as irregular and illegal and all masons named in said warrants and all persons becoming members of said lodges irregular masons. This proclamation and accompanying documents I at once forwarded to the chairman of the Committee of Foreign Correspondence, with instructions to report to this Grand Lodge such action as said committee should deem proper for us to take in the matter.

It is with feelings of profound regret that I have to inform you that the Grand Orient of France has removed from its constitution those paragraphs which affirm a belief in the existence of T. G. A. O. T. U. This action on the part of the Grand Orient of France, I firmly believe to be subversive of many principles which, from the earliest period of masonry to the present time, have been the beauty and glory of the Order, and I

must say that I am appalled at the evils which may result from it, unless it everywhere receives the unqualified disapprobation it so well deserves. I therefore trust this Grand Lodge will in a proper and emphatic manner express its condemnation of the action taken by the Grand Orient of France in thus removing from its constitution those paragraphs which assert a belief in Deity, because such an alteration is opposed to the traditions, practice and feelings of true and genuine masons from the earliest to the present times.

Believing that the exercise of the right and privilege by the grand officers of visiting officially the subordinate lodges of this jurisdiction, would tend to stimulate a deeper zeal for and interest in masonry, I very much desired in the beginning of the past masonic year to devote much time to this most pleasaut duty, but circumstances were such that I could not do so. It was, however, my privilege to meet with the brethren of the following lodges:

Clanton No. 423.—Here I found the brethren strong, active and vigorous, and greatly proficient in the work, though they constitute the youngest lodge in the State. I conferred the Master's degree at this lodge and having notified the Worshipful Master in advance of my coming, there were present a number of officers and brethren from neighboring lodges. I was much gratified to find the brethren guarding well the portals of their lodge, and fully appreciating the fact that "it is the internal and not the external qualifications of a man that should recommend him to be made a mason."

Hartwell Lodge No. 101.—Having notified Bro. S. C. Williams, Worshipful Master, of my visit, in advance, here, as at Clanton Lodge, there were a number of officers and brethren from neighboring lodges. Found this lodge in a fine condition. The records, kept by Bro. Thomas H. Barry, I found the most perfect and elegant I had ever seen.

Hiram Lodge No. 42.—Here as at the other lodges, I found many officers and brethren from neighboring lodges. Had no work, but exemplified the degrees.

Cross Plains Lodge, No. 368.—Here we met Worshipful Master of Amberson Lodge No. 412, and a number of officers and brethren from other

lodges. Exemplified the work. Found the lodge presided over by Bro. Alexander McCollister, and in excellent condition. Records well and neatly kept.

To the brethren whom I met in my visits, I desire to express my gratitude for the uniform courtesy and kindness extended me.

And now, brethren, I dismiss you to your labors, hoping that peace and harmony may prevail, and that whatever is done may be with an eye single to the good of Masonry and the glory of God.

On motion of Brother Myles J. Greene the Grand Secretary was ordered to furnish the Daily Morning Advertiser with a copy of the Grand Master's address for publication.

The Grand Treasurer made his Annual Report, and it was received and referred to the Committee on Finance. *(See Appendix.)*

The Grand Secretary made his Annual Report, and it was received and referred to the Committee on Finance. *(See Appendix.)*

The Grand Secretary made report of the vote of the Chartered Lodges on the proposed amendments to the constitution, as found on pages 53 and 60 of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of 1877, and the report was received and ordered to be filed.

(Neither of the amendments were adopted by the subordinate chartered lodges.)

The Grand Secretary made report of the money transmitted by the masonic bodies in Alabama, and also by some private citizens, through him, to the yellow-fever sufferers in Tennessee and Mississippi, and the report was received and ordered to be filed.

LETTER FROM P. G. M. NORRIS.

The Grand Secretary read a letter from Brother George D. Norris, P. G. M., explaining that the reason of his non-attendance at the present communication of the Grand Lodge, was on account of the severe and continued indisposition of a beloved daughter. And the Grand Secretary was ordered to address the M. W. brother, and express to him the sympathy of the members of the Grand Lodge for him in his severe affliction.

Brother Isaiah A. Wilson offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

HIGH-LOG LODGE NO. 193.

Resolved, That the name of High-log Lodge No. 193 be changed to Hopewell Lodge No. 193.

REPORT ON THE E. A. DEGREE.

Brother Myles J. Greene, from the Committee on Work, made report on the E. A. Degree, and the report was received and concurred in.

And then, after prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow morning at 8½ o'clock.

IN GRAND LODGE.

TUESDAY MORNING, December 3, 1878.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 8½ o'clock, the M. W. Grand Master, Henry Clay Armstrong, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

Prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Grand Secretary offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

RESTORING FORFEITED CHARTERS.

Resolved, That all those lodges, the charters of which have been heretofore forfeited on account of non-representation for two years, and which have now paid up their dues, be, and the same are hereby, reinstated.

The Grand Secretary offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

WARREN LODGE NO. 47 REINSTATED.

Resolved, That Warren Lodge No. 47, the charter of which has been forfeited for not holding a communication within the time prescribed by the constitution, and which has now paid up its dues and is represented, be, and the same is hereby, reinstated.

Brother James A. Bilbro offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

JEWELS OF WARRIOR STAND NO. 115.

Resolved, That Tuskegee Lodge No 57 be allowed the use of the furniture and jewels of Warrior Stand Lodge No. 115, the charter of which has been forfeited, until they are demanded by this Grand Lodge.

REPORT ON F. C. DEGREE.

Brother James M. Brundidge, from the Committee on Work, made report on F. C. Degree, and the report was received and concurred in.

REPORT ON M. M. DEGREE.

Brother James M. Brundidge, from the Committee on Work, made report on the M. M. Degree, and the report was received and concurred in.

Brother Thomas T. Rowland offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

AS TO AN ENDOWMENT FUND.

Resolved, That a committee of seven be appointed to report on the subject mentioned in the M. W. Grand Master's address, viz: the request of Washington Lodge No. 36, touching the establishment by this Grand Lodge of an endowment fund of two thousand dollars for the heirs of deceased Master Masons.

And the Committee was appointed as follows:

Brothers David Clopton,
Thomas T. Rowland,
Rufus W. Cobb,
Henry C. Tompkins,
Isaiah A. Wilson,
Myles J. Greene,
James M. Brundidge.

PAPERS REFERRED.

On motion of the Brother Grand Secretary, all papers,

memorials, petitions, etc., were directed to be handed to the several committees to which they belonged without being brought to the attention of the Grand Lodge.

The following were announced as the regular

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Chartered Lodges.

No. 1.

Alexander McCollister,
William D. Sartor,
Jesse L. Adams,
James D. Truss,
Briggs W. Hopson.

No. 2.

Hiram M. Hayes,
Solomon T. Strickland,
Ralph T. Armstrong,
Thaddeus L. Robertson,
Aven W. Cotten.

No. 3.

James A. Bilbro,
Richard E. R. Hicks,
John W. Pitts,
Lawrence L. Gaddy,
William J. Grady.

No. 4.

John A. Glenn,
John Arnold,
David D. Hurt,
Philip C. Candidus,
George W. Cross.

No. 5.

Young M. Rabb,
Calvin J. Nettles,
James Mills Jr.,
Oswell Albright,
Walter R. Dawson.

No. 6.

Martin G. Slaughter,
Henry D. Curtis,
James T. Armstrong,
George A. Stewart,
Daniel W. Floyd.

No. 7.

Anthony H. Sellers,
George R. Sullivan,
Thomas F. Hall,
Hampton W. Glover,
William C. Bledsoe.

No. 8.

Isaac C. Hall,
Thomas P. Deavor,
Alfred McGee,
William B. Jackson Jr.,
William C. Cousins.

No. 9.

Henry A. Garrett, Llewelyn Spigener,
Benjamin E. Curtis, William H. Tancre.
Richard A. Ramsey,

No. 10.

Oliver C. Ulmer, Jesse P. Taylor,
Pinkney M. Bruner, Samuel W. Pegues.
Davis E. Cason,

ON DISPENSATIONS.

No. 1.

Andrew A. Oden, Lewis T. Wimberly,
William T. Chapman, John C. Grumbles.
Gustavus Hendrick,

No. 2.

Green D. Campbell, Amos M. Elliott,
George C. Saunders, John M. Wyly.
Charles C. McCall,

ON FINANCE.

Oliver S. Beers, Daniel Smith,
Isaac A. McMillan, John DeLoach.
Henry H. Brown,

ON BY-LAWS.

Theodore L. Eastburn, Wiley W. Bloodworth,
James D. Dreisbach, Josiah Jernigan.
Howell L. Peebles,

ON PROPOSITIONS AND GRIEVANCES.

Samuel K. McSpadden, Sam Thompson,
Thomas H. Barge, William S. Penick.
Elias A. Brown,

DOINGS OF GRAND OFFICERS.

Burrell J. Word, Isaac M. Johnson,
Anthony D. Sampey, Isaac K. Thompson.
James M. Bridges,

ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

William S. Foster, Joseph E. P. Flournoy,
Edward N. Kring, Kossuth A. Mayer.
Moses D. Pinson,

And then, after prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until this evening at 7 o'clock.

IN GRAND LODGE.

TUESDAY EVENING, December 3, 1878.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 7 o'clock, the M. W. Grand Master, Henry Clay Armstrong, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

Prayer by R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The minutes were read and approved.

Brother William Y. Titcomb, from the Committee on Suspensions, Expulsions, and Appeals, made the following report, and the report was disposed of as noted at the bottom of each case. And then the whole report was concurred in.

SUSPENSIONS, EXPULSIONS, AND APPEALS.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Alabama:

The Committee on Suspensions, Expulsions, and Appeals, respectfully submits the following report:

Such cases as have been placed in the hands of the committee have been carefully examined, and our action thereon is herewith presented for the approval or reversal of the Grand Lodge.

APPEAL FROM BEXAR LODGE No. 230.

Appeal of Brother Samuel H. Brown from the decision of Bexar Lodge No. 230, which decision imposed on Brother T. J. Springfield the penalty of a reprimand, under charges and specifications as follows:

CHARGE—*Immoral and Unmasonic Conduct.*

Specification 1st.—In "that Brother Springfield said that I (Brown) had treated him like a grand rascal, and also stated that he had the advantage of me, and if I did not let him alone, he would use it against me; and he further said that he had given me the last note that he ever expected to give me."

The only evidence brought forward in this case, was that of Brother Allen, who substantiated the charge that Springfield had applied to Brown the epithet, grand rascal, but, on the other hand, Allen's testimony cleared Springfield from the charge that he had threatened to use his "advantage" against Brown, and gave him the credit of intimating that he did not wish to injure Brown. Brother Brown, it seems, wishes Brother Springfield to be beaten with more stripes. "*Brethren, dwell together in unity.*"

We recommend that the decision of Bexar Lodge No. 230, reprimanding Brother T. J. Springfield be, and it is hereby sustained.

Report concurred in.

APPEAL FROM BRUNDIDGE LODGE No. 184.

In obedience to the mandate of the Grand Lodge, Brundidge Lodge did, on the 25th August 1877, grant a new trial to the said Columbus A. Ligon, who had been previously tried, and expelled from said Lodge under charges and specifications alleging monstrous violation of his Masonic obligation on the part of said Ligon. The result of the rehearing in this case was a unanimous vote declaring said C. A. Ligon guilty, under the charges and specifications, followed by a like vote for his expulsion from all the rights and benefits of Masonry. A transcript of the proceedings in that matter reached the Grand Secretary's office just at the close of the last Grand Lodge, and consequently too late for consideration at the Grand Communication of 1877.

The proceedings at Ligon's trial have been attentively considered by your committee, and after a careful examination of all the evidence brought to bear in said trial, it is our opinion that the action of our brethren of Brundidge Lodge, in expelling Ligon, deserves the approval of every good Mason; we therefore recommend that the decision of Brundidge Lodge No 184, expelling Columbus A. Ligon from all the rights and benefits of Masonry be sustained.

Report concurred in.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, the members of this committee respectfully submit an observation which we trust will be taken as it is given, that is, in a brotherly spirit. That *drunkenness* and *gross profanity* are not unknown among Masons cannot be denied; nay, we may truthfully declare that one or the other of these vices is quite common in some places.

In our ritual and ceremonies we profess profound reverence for the great name of the Supreme Architect of the Universe. Some of us, nevertheless, on leaving the sacred precincts of the Lodge have no hesitation in taking the awful name of God in vain. Many of us have heard masons use language so extremely profane as to almost curdle the blood in our veins. If we believe what we profess; if a recognition of our obligations to Deity is that cement which holds together the several parts of our mystic edifice, and if we are not willing that our professions shall be put to burning shame, then ought we to pay pointed attention to this matter, and see to it that profane swearing on the part of Masons be made subject to Masonic discipline.

Again, it is fraternally intimated that whenever a brother becomes inebriated from indulgence in intoxicating beverages, charges should be preferred against him by a brother or the standing committee of the Lodge. When a Mason gets drunk he parts with his Masonic character, and should, without doubt, be brought to trial for putting such dishonor on the fraternity. Hence it is recommended by your committee that it be considered and held to be sufficient cause for arresting the charter of any subordinate Lodge that said Lodge shall wink at, or pass without notice, any public drunkenness or profanity of its members.

That the fraternity is not in as good condition as, perhaps, it has been at some past time, should be, on sound principles, not only no reason why our standard should be lowered, but also an urgent reason why that standard should be raised.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. Y. TITCOMB,
Chairman.

Brother Isaac C. Hall, from Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 8, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 8.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 8, having examined the returns submitted to them, beg leave to report the following

CORRECT:

Holly Grove	No. 323	Reagan	No. 341
Viola	" 324	Pikeville	" 344
Madison Station	" 329	Echo	" 345
Forkland	" 330	Hurtville	" 346
Charity	" 331	Bienville	" 348
Oliver	" 334	Ozark	" 349
Nanafalia	" 335	Sipsey for 1877 and 1878	" 350
Johnson	" 337	Rock Mills	" 353
Georgiana Davis	" 338	Barbour	" 358
Albert Pike	" 339		

INCORRECT:

CLUTTSVILLE No. 319.—Name not indorsed on the back.

WARRENTON No. 320.—No seal.

PLEASANT HILL No. 321.—Year for which dues are paid not set down on the back of returns.

BLUE EYE No. 332.—Under "Degrees Conferred" names repeated under all the heads, instead of putting them under "Master Masons" and adding dates of Entering and Passing; dates in the wrong column; blanks in the heading not filled out; under each of the heads, "Rejected" and "Dimitted," *one* written, but no name given; date of attestation left blank; seal not upright.

CLEAR CREEK No. 340.—Date of attestion left blank.

WILSON WILLIAMS No. 351.—Number of members in good standing not set down in the "Recapitulation"; 2 set down as dimitted, whereas the inside shows that 3 were dimitted; officers and members not numbered; initials and abbreviations used; date of attestation not filled out; Returns badly defaced by erasures.

HEATON No. 354.—Table of "Dues" not filled up.

RUTLEDGE No. 357.—Number of members in good standing set down in the "Recapitulation" at 18, whereas there are 20; date of attestation not filled up.

SCOTTSBORO No. 359.—For 1877 defaced by alterations and erasures;

initials and abbreviations used. For 1878, heading not filled out; initials and abbreviations used; table of fees incorrectly filled up.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

I. C. HALL,
Chairman.

Brother Wilson Williams, P. G. M., from the Committee on Grand Master's Address, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

The committee to whom was referred the Address of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, beg leave to submit the following report:

We find the Address of the Most Worshipful Grand Master full of zeal and Fraternal sympathy—characteristic of a noble heart, and a hand at all times ready to serve the craft.

The business brought to the attention and consideration of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge by the Grand Master, . which your committee deem it advisable should be referred to appropriate committees for investigation and report, we respectfully recommend as follows:

1. We recommend the indorsement of the action of the Grand Master in granting Dispensations to elect officers of subordinate Lodges as reported by him, as well as the removal of certain other Lodges, and also his refusal to consolidate certain Lodges.

2. We further recommend that all questions of Masonic Law, and the decisions of the Grand Master thereon, be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

3. We further recommend that the subject matter referred to by the Grand Master, in relation to the Grand Orient of France, be referred to a special committee of five.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

I. A. WILSON,
J. H. JOHNSON,
WILSON WILLIAMS,
Committee.

And the Special Committee provided for in the foregoing report was appointed as follows:

COMMITTEE ON THE GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE.

Palmer J. Pillans, P. G. M.,
Wilson Williams, P. G. M.,
John R. Goldthwaite,
John Gideon Harris,
Samuel K. McSpadden.

Brother Young M. Rabb, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 5, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 5.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 5, after examination of the Returns submitted to them, beg leave to report the following to be—

CORRECT:

Desotoville	No.	178	Opelika	No.	195
Aberfoil	"	181	Hillabee	"	197
Brundidge	"	184	Caledonia	"	198
Catawba	"	186	Sylacauga	"	200
Landmark, 2 years	"	187	Valley	"	203
Clintonville	"	188	Manning Spring	"	204
Delta	"	189	Pettusville	"	207
Tombigbee	"	190	Alexandria	"	208
Chattahoochee	"	192	Marshall	"	209
High Log	"	193	Builders	"	215

INCORRECT:

MOUNT HILLIARD No. 180.—No postoffice set down.

BRUSH CREEK No. 191.—Recapitulation shows one *entered* since last return, but no name or date given under head of "Degrees Conferred." Table of *Fees* not filled out with amount charged for the degrees, but the word *none* inserted.

KILIGEE No. 199.—Caption of *returns* not filled out.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

YOUNG M. RABB,
Chairman.

SPECIAL ORDER.

The report of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence was made the special order for to-morrow at 12 o'clock.

Brother David A. Wright offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

CHANDLER LODGE NO. 367 REINSTATED.

Resolved, That Chandler Lodge No. 367, the charter of which has been forfeited by reason of non-representation for two years, having paid up its dues, be reinstated.

Brother William Y. Titcomb offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

DUES OF GREENING LODGE NO. 53 REMITTED.

Resolved, That the dues of Greening Lodge No. 53, the Hall of which has been destroyed by fire, be, and the same are hereby, remitted.

On motion of Brother James M. Brundidge the Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing Masonic year, Brother John R. Goldthwaite and James H. Joiner acting as tellers, and the election resulted as follows:

ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

HENRY CLAY ARMSTRONG	Notasulga	Grand Master.
HENRY C. TOMPKINS	Union Springs	Deputy Grand Master.
RUFUS W. COBB	Helena	Senior Grand Warden.
JOHN H. BANKHEAD	Moscow	Junior Grand Warden.
WILLIAM H. DINGLEY	Montgomery	Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE	Montgomery	Grand Secretary.
JAMES DAVIDSON	Montgomery	Grand Tiler.

And the M. W. Grand Master *elect* announced the following

APPOINTED GRAND OFFICERS.

Rev. William C. Bledsoe..La Fayette.....Grand Chaplain.
Joseph M. Kumpe. .....Leighton .....Grand Marshal.
Joseph A. Adams..... Newton.....Senior Grand Deacon.
John W. Jones.....Jefferson.....Junior Grand Deacon.
Adam R. Baker.....Montgomery..... Grand Steward.
John W. Martin.....Montgomery..... ...Grand Steward.

Brother James A. Wood offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

DUES OF SHELBY LODGE NO. 140 REMITTED.

Resolved, That the Dues of Shelby Lodge No. 140 be remitted on account of its Hall having been destroyed by fire.

Brother Grand Secretary offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

TIME TO JONESBORO LODGE NO. 315.

Resolved, That Jonesboro Lodge No. 315 have 60 days in which to pay its Dues.

And then, after prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow morning at 10½ o'clock.

IN GRAND LODGE.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, December 4, 1878.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 10½ o'clock, the M. W. Grand Master, Henry Clay Armstrong, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

Prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The minutes were read and approved.

SPECIAL ORDER.

The special order for to-day at 12 o'clock was postponed until 7½ o'clock this evening, and made the special order for that hour.

Brother Oliver S. Beers, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

SPECIAL REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence, having had under consideration several topics of general masonic interest, claiming in some instances definite action on the part of this Grand body at as early a period as an intelligent consideration of the subjects involved would permit, beg permission to make special report thereon and suggest suitable resolutions for your consideration and adoption—

First—Your committee have examined the reports and accompanying documents emanating from the recently established "Grand Lodge of New Mexico," holding its communications at Santa Fe in the territory of New Mexico, and find them regular, satisfactory and creditable to the masonic character of the new Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge of New Mexico was constituted by *three* Lodges chartered by, and recently working under the jurisdiction of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Missouri. These Lodges to meet a necessity of their isolated territorial position, and for the "good of Masonry," have, with the consent and approval of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, organised and established this separate and independent Grand Lodge. Your committee submit a resolution accompanying this report, providing alike for the recognition of the M. W. Grand Lodge of New Mexico and the appointment of a suitable representative of this Grand Lodge near that Grand Jurisdiction, in response to their request for such recognition and representation.

Second—Your committee have, with due diligence and no little interest, perused the conflicting circulars and manifestos of the two Grand bodies severally claiming recognition as sovereign and supreme masonic authorities of the Island of Cuba—one known as the M. W. Grand Lodge of Cuba, and the other as the "M. W. Grand Lodge of Colon, of the Island of Cuba."

These organizations while claiming each for itself due recognition as the supreme masonic authority on the Island of Cuba; each alike pointedly and persistently denies and repudiates the claim of masonic jurisdiction advanced by the other.

Among the papers submitted in this case of contested jurisdiction, are several able defences of the rights of the Grand Lodge of Cuba as well as evidence of the full recognition of her claims by many of the Grand Lodges of the United States, among which those of New York and Pennsylvania are notable examples.

Against these, however, there are not wanting able and almost convincing opinions, from high American Masonic sources, opposing the claim of the Grand Lodge of Cuba and favoring those of the Grand Lodge of Colon of the Island of Cuba. Between these conflicting opinions of both Cuban and American Grand Lodge authorities and sentiment, your committee have been unable to arrive at a satisfactory decision of the case, and are of opinion that this "tangled net" of controversy is not yet susceptible of safe and judicious solution.

We therefore recommend that the question of the recognition of either of the Cuban organizations claiming recognition as supreme Grand Lodges, be deferred until our next annual communication. A full history

of this Cuban controversy will be submitted with the regular report on correspondence, to be published with the proceedings of this communication, to which they beg reference for a fair presentation of the points involved in this territorial dispute.

Third—Your committee have also investigated, as fully as opportunity permitted, the controversy recently announced as pending between the M. W. Grand Lodges of Quebec and Scotland. This contest involves, essentially, the integrity of the American doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge territorial sovereignty, although in this as in other recent European invasions of this right of jurisdiction, there are, seemingly plausible pretexts assigned for the act, pointing to other and more creditable reasons for it than that of premeditated disregard and invasion of the masonic privileges of a sovereign sister jurisdiction.

As far however as your committee have been enabled to investigate the subject they can discover no warrant or excuse for the course pursued by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Scotland, in attempting to *constitute* and *control Lodges within the territory of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Quebec*, no matter what motive for the intrusion may be alleged by it.

With all due deference to the arguments advanced by the Grand Lodge of Scotland in defence of her act, we see in it only an unwarranted and inexcusable assumption of authority over subjects of a foreign jurisdiction and a palpable disregard of the principles of Grand Lodge Sovereignty of Jurisdiction.

Your committee therefore commend to the sympathy of this Grand body the M. W. Grand Lodge of Quebec in her present struggle to vindicate her rights of territorial jurisdiction against the insidious and unwarrantable attacks of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Scotland.

In the hope however that some equitable adjustment of this controversy may soon be reached, as the result of negotiations now pending, we recommend that this Grand body defer more definite and final action on these aggressive acts of the Grand Lodge of Scotland until its next annual communication.

RESOLUTION.

Resolved, That a cordial and fraternal welcome and recognition is hereby extended by this Grand body to the M. W. Grand Lodge of New Mexico, and the M. W. Grand Master is hereby authorised to provide for an interchange of representatives with that Grand Jurisdiction and to extend to it all usual masonic courtesies and correspondence.

All of which, together with a request for permission to defer for the present our usual annual report and review of the proceedings of corres-

ponding Grand Lodges and prepare the same for publication as a part of the proceedings of this Grand Communication, is respectfully submitted.

OLIVER S. BEERS,
Chairman.

Brother Palmer J. Pillans, from the Special Committee on the Grand Orient of France, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in, and the resolutions unanimously adopted:

ON THE GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

The special committee to whom was referred that portion of the address of the M. W. Grand Master which relates to the Grand Orient of France, beg leave to report—

That "it is with feelings of profound regret" that the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama learns that the Grand Orient of France "has removed from its constitution those paragraphs which affirm a belief in the existence of T. G. A. O. T. U." This we the more deeply deplore because of the large power which this Grand Orient has heretofore wielded in moulding masonic sentiment, and which might still have been exercised in ameliorating the condition of mankind. We are not blind to the fact that within a few years past this same Grand Orient has acted in a manner inexcusable on more than one occason, but we had a firm belief that sober reflection would have induced it to have corrected its errors. We are almost, however, forced to a conviction of the applicability of the old Roman adage that—"*Quos Deus vult perdere prius dementat.*" The whole structure of Masonry shows that its very foundation is this belief in Deity. Its whole teachings are infused throughout with adoration of and reliance on his great name and protecting power. To remove this is to destroy the foundation on which the whole superstructure rests. We would not only be derelict in our duty as Masons, but also criminal ourselves, were we to let this occasion pass without expressing the severest condemnation. We sincerely hope that this is but the outburst of some fanatical sentiment which time shall correct; but we feel that a proper respect for ourselves as well as a proper regard for Masonry demand our action. The committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions—

1st. That the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama deeply deplores the ac-

tion of the Grand Orient of France in the above particular, and fraternally urges upon the said Grand Orient a review of its action and the reinstatement of a firm belief in God as a pre-requisite in every candidate for Masonic degrees.

2d. That the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama believes that Masonry does not and cannot exist without this belief, and that any Order so constituted, though similar in all particulars to Masonry, yet is not Masonry, and cannot be recognised as such.

3d. That so long as the Grand Orient of France shall adhere to its present declaration, it is not a Masonic organization, and therefore—

4th. That the Grand Lodge of Alabama hereby ceases all recognition of the said Grand Orient of France. and forbids any Masonic recognition by any of its members of any one claiming to be of the Grand Orient of France, or any of its dependencies, and that this is to continue in force until the Grand Lodge of Alabama shall have been notified of the retraction of the Grand Orient of France, and shall have repealed this action.

PALMER J. PILLANS,
Chairman of the Committee.

Brother Martin G. Slaughter, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 6, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 6.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

The Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 6 have instructed me to report, that they have carefully examined the returns of the Subordinate Lodges placed in their hands, and find them all correct; which is a very unusual thing. We can but commend the pains-taking and care of our R. W. Grand Secretary, in sending out upon the blank Returns, instructions so plain to the Secretaries of Subordinate Lodges, that it is almost impossible that they should commit errors without being careless or inadvertent. We specify the various lodge returns submitted to us.

CORRECT :

Sam Dixon	No. 218	Tallassee	No. 237
Lineville	" 219	Bowen	" 241
Tensaw	" 221	Coosa	" 242
Western Star	" 222	Ramer	" 243
Sandy Ridge	" 223	Dawson	" 244
Newton	" 224	Harrison	" 246
Louisville	" 225	Cropwell—2 years	" 247
Santa Fe	" 226	Lawrence	" 248
James Penn	" 227	Amand	" 250
Dallas	" 228	Camp Creek	" 251
Bexar	" 230	North Port	" 252
Duck Spring—2 years	" 231	Rose Hill	" 253
Sepulga	" 233	Quitman	" 254
Harpersville	" 235		

In conclusion, we would cheerfully commend the carefulness of the various Secretaries of these subordinate lodges in following the instructions sent out, and the neatness and care manifested by most of them in making out their Returns to this Grand Lodge.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

M. G. SLAUGHTER, Chairman.

Brother Alexander McCollister, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 1, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in :

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 1.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama :

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 1 respectfully report that they have examined the returns submitted to them, and find the following

CORRECT :

Helion—for 1878	No. 1	LaFayette	No. 26
Alabama	" 3	Selma Fraternal	" 27
Rising Virtue	" 4	Autauga	" 31
Moulton	" 6	Washington	" 36
Macon	" 7	Wetumpka	" 39
Farrar	" 8	Mobile	" 40
Royal White Hart	" 10	Livingston	" 41
Montgomery	" 11	Hiram	" 42
Athens	" 16	Gaston	" 44
Saint Albans	" 22	Harmony	" 46
George Washington	" 24	Warren	" 47
Dale	" 25	Union	" 50

INCORRECT:

HELION for 1877, No. 1.—Table of Fees not filled out, initials and abbreviations used, overpaid dues $1.50.

GILEAD No. 9.—Recapitulation not filled out, claims one minister but name not designated, table of fees not filled out.

FLORENCE No. 14.—Neither name, number, year, nor dues, indorsed on the back; recapitulation not filled out, 4 members marked *Rev.* instead of M. G. and only three claimed in the table of dues, table of fees not filled out, neither name nor number set down in the signature, date A. L. not filled out.

RISING SUN No. 29.—No postoffice given.

COURTLAND No. 37.—No seal.

LEIGHTON No. 43.—Initials used and table of fees not filled up, lodge dues set down at $10 per annum when it is in fact $2.

DEMOPOLIS No. 49.—Claims exemption for two ministers but names not indicated.

Fraternally submitted,

ALEXANDER McCOLLISTER,
Chairman.

Brother Solomon T. Strickland, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 2, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 2.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

The Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 2 beg leave to submit their report. They have examined the returns placed in their hands, and find the following

CORRECT:

Jefferson—2 years	No. 51	Central	No. 70
New Market	" 52	Tohopeka	" 71
Greening	" 53	Widow's Son	" 72
Amity	" 54	Auburn	" 76
Tuskegee	" 57	Crozier	" 78
Benton	" 59	Wilcox	" 80
Tompkinsville	" 61	Friendship	" 83
Saint Johns	" 62	Erophotic	" 84
Eureka	" 64	Prattville	" 89
Liberty	" 65	Pfister	" 90
Hampden Sidney	" 67	Henry	" 91
Howard	" 69	Sawyer	" 93

INCORRECT:

TROY No. 56.—Not numbered on the back.

HOLSEY No. 68.—Made out on an old blank gotten up during the war, no name or number on the back or amount of dues, piece of sealing-wax stuck on for a seal.

SOLOMON No. 74.—No column being left opposite the names for dues, it is therefore error to put the amount there, the dues are reckoned up in the table of dues.

COKERVILLE No. 75.—Errors too numerous to specify.

FREDONIA No. 79.—Table of fees not filled out.

BELLEFONTE No. 82.—No name, number, year, or amount of dues on the back; recapitulation not filled out, caption of returns not filled out, no date to attestation.

MERIDIAN SUN No. 88.—Caption of return not filled out.

Reports generally very neatly made out. All of which is respectfully submitted.

SOLOMON T. STRICKLAND,
Chairman.

Brother Richard E. R. Hicks, from Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 3, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in.

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 3.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 3 beg leave to make the following report. Having carefully examined all the returns submitted to them, they find the following to be

CORRECT:

Lozahatchee	No. 97	Forest Hill	No. 110
Fulton	" 98	Sylvan, 2 years	" 111
Salem	" 99	Notasulga	" 119
Hartwell	" 101	Camp Hill	" 120
Newbern, 2 years	" 102	Coffeeville	" 122
Shiloh	" 105	Havana	" 123
Hermon	" 106	Herndon	" 125
Choctaw	" 107	Yorkville	" 131
Oak Bowery	" 108	Loachapoka	" 133

INCORRECT:

TUCKABATCHEE No. 96.—Recapitulation not filled out, reports the affiliation of a F. C.

GOOD SAMARITAN No. 104.—Members incorrectly numbered.

DEAN No. 112.—Name not indorsed on the back, table of fees erroneously filled up, fee for Raising put down at $5, while the Constitution says it shall not be less than $10, date A. L. not filled out.

PERRYVILLE No. 117.—Table of Fees erroneously filled out, date A. L. not filled out, no seal.

FELIX No. 124.—Figures on the back of Return in pencil, table of Fees incorrectly filled out, and date A. L. not filled out.

MORTIMER REEDER No. 126.—Returns not signed by either Master or Secretary.

BOLIVAR No. 127.—Officers and other members not numbered, table of Fees and Dues incorrectly filled out, no date or dues indorsed on the back, returns much disfigured by blots, alterations, and erasures; 2 affiliates not set down in the list of members—therefore due the Grand Lodge $1.

COLUMBIA No. 135.—Returns for two years, in both members not numbered, in those for 1877 dues are paid for 44 members and actual count shows that they should be paid for 46 members—due the Grand Lodge $1.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

JAMES A. BILBRO,
Chairman.

Brother John A. Glenn, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 4, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in.

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 4.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 4 beg leave to make the following report. They have carefully examined the returns submitted to them, and find the following

CORRECT:

Bradford	No. 138	Penick, 2 years	No. 161
Bethel	" 141	Mount Hope	" 168
Daleville	" 144	Elba—1877	" 170
Fraternity	" 145	Clopton	" 171
Chambers, 2 years	" 149	Fellowship	" 172
Mount Jefferson	" 152	Andrew Jackson	" 173
Nixburg	" 154		

INCORRECT:

UNITY No. 136.—Does not observe instructions in filling out Recapitulation with figures.

SHELBY No. 140.—Year for which dues are paid not set down on the back, Master's name signed in the wrong place.

BALDWIN No. 142.—Name of Lodge not indorsed on the back, seal illegible.

BURLESON No. 143.—Under general head of "Degrees Conferred" names repeated under the heads of E. A., F. C., and M. M., contrary to instructions.

MISSOURI No. 146.—Table of "Dues" incorrectly filled. Report being for two years, it should be—15 members at 50 cents *for* 2 *years* $15, name of lodge not set down at the bottom of the Return after the master's name, in the table of Fees lodge dues per annum set down at $15 while the actual amount is $1.

RODGERSVILLE No. 147.—Reports the death of one suspended.

COLD WATER No. 148.—Adds the amount of dues at the end of each name, which is not provided for in the blank return and is not intended to be put there.

ETAM No. 150.—For 2 years, seal upside down in both returns.

BLADON SPRINGS No. 151.—No date to year on the back for which dues are paid, Recapitulation not filled up.

MONROEVILLE No. 153.—Amount of Lodge dues not set down at bottom of Return, seal upside down.

EASTABOGA No. 155.—Table of Fees improperly filled out. Ought to have put down the fee for each degree.

MAYSVILLE No. 158.—Date of attestation not filled out, one member reinstated whose name is not on the list, therefore due the Grand Lodge 50 cents.

FAYETTEVILLE AUTHENTIC No. 163.—Seal illegible, year A. L. not filled out.

SUMTER No. 166.—Dues put opposite each name for which there is no provision in the blank return.

BUENA VISTA No. 169.—Table of Fees erroneously filled up, one name not on the list therefore due the Grand Lodge 50 cents.

ELBA No. 170.—For 1878, no seal.

EZEL No. 175.—No year marked on the back for which dues are paid, seal barely legible and upside down.

Fraternally submitted.

JOHN A. GLENN,
Chairman.

Brother Theodore L. Eastburn, from the Committee on By-laws, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in.

REPORT ON BY-LAWS.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

The Committee on By-laws beg leave to report that they have carefully examined the By-laws of Helena Lodge No. 410 and Temple Lodge No. 425, submitted to them by the Grand Secretary, and recommend that Sect. 9 Art. IV of Temple Lodge No. 425 be stricken out; with that exception the By-laws of both Lodges are in accordance with the principles and usages of the Fraternity, and the constitution and regulations of the Grand Lodge, and we recommend their approval.

Fraternally submitted.

T. L. EASTBURN, Chairman.

Brother Oliver C. Ulmer, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 10, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 10.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 10 respectfully submit that they have examined the returns referred to them, and find the following

CORRECT:

Hickory Flat	No.	392	Amberson	No.	412
Opelika	"	395	Oak Level	"	415
Falkville	"	396	Williamsburg	"	416
Hartselle	"	398	George Smith	"	417
Haw Ridge	"	399	Broomtown	"	420
Hoboken	"	404	Shorterville	"	422
North River	"	407	Clanton	"	423

INCORRECT:

North Border No. 391.—Wrong number of Lodge put on the back; year and dues not set out on the back; table of Fees not filled out.

Valley Head No. 394.—Twenty-two members reported last year, two affiliations since, making 24; only 23 accounted for; due the Grand Lodge 50 cents.

Hanceville No. 400.—Twenty-four members reported last year; since then 2 have affiliated, 1 raised, and 2 dimitted; only 24 are accounted for; therefore due the Grand Lodge 50 cents.

Green Hill No. 402.—Names of those raised written under all the heads of E. A., F. C., and M. M., should only be written under the latter; same error in F. C.; the word *none* left out in several places where it should appear; 9 members not graded; seal not upright.

Childersburg No. 403.—The word *none* left out in several places where it should appear; seal not upright; year A. L. not filled out.

Doric No. 406.—Table of Fees and Dues improperly filled out; grade of 9 members not given.

Hillsboro No. 408.—Recapitulation not filled out; the word *none* omitted where it should appear; pays dues for 1 dimitted.

Helena No. 410.—In the Recapitulation are included 2 F. C. and 1 E. A. as members in good standing; the word *none* omitted in one place where it should appear, and Return defaced by erasures.

Jemison No. 411.—Grade of 8 members not given; seal upside down. Last year this Lodge reported 24 members; since then 5 have been raised, 3 affiliated, 1 died, 4 dimitted, and 1 suspended; only 23 are accounted for; due the Grand Lodge $1.50.

High Shoals No. 413.—Recapitulation and table of Dues and Fees all improperly filled out; names of E. A., F. C., and M. M. all repeated under the several heads of Degrees Conferred; year A. L. not filled out; dues short $1.50.

SULPHER SPRINGS No. 414.—Made out on an improvised blank. The Secretary should have written to the Grand Secretary for blanks, though the regular blanks were doubtless sent to the proper postoffice.

HILTON No. 419.—This Lodge has been working under Dispensation continued from last year. These returns are imperfect in several particulars, but no doubt the secretary will improve after it gets to work under a charter.

CULLMAN FRATERNAL No. 421.—This Lodge reported 16 members last year, 9 have been raised, 1 affiliated, 1 expelled, and 2 dimitted, and only 21 now returned, leaving two unaccounted for; therefore due the Grand Lodge $1. In one place the dues are set down at 50 cents, and in another place at $1.

GEORGE WILSON No. 424.—This Lodge has been working under Dispensation, and it desires that the Dispensation be continued, which no doubt the Grand Lodge will grant.

TEMPLE No. 425.—Your committee recommend the same as the last above.

Fraternally submitted.

OLIVER C. ULMER,
Chairman.

REPORT ON PROPOSITIONS AND GRIEVANCES.

Brother Samuel K. McSpadden, from the Committee on Propositions and Grievances, made a report upon the proper construction of Section 24 of Article vi, upon the subject of Suspensions for non-payment of Dues, and the report was referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence with instructions to report to-night at 8 o'clock.

COKERVILLE LODGE No. 75.

The same committee, to which was referred the petition of Cokerville Lodge No. 75, the charter of which had been forfeited, to be reinstated upon the payment of all back dues, and be allowed to remove from its present location to Bethlehem Church, a distance of about 10 miles, reported in favor of granting the petition, and the report was reeeived and concurred in.

Mobile and Magnolia Lodges.

The same committee, on the petition of Mobile Lodge No. 40, and Magnolia Lodge No. 259, to be consolidated into one Lodge by the name and number of Mobile Lodge No. 40, reported in favor of granting the prayer of the petition, and the report was received and concurred in.

George Washington Lodge No. 24.

The same committee, on the petition of George Washington Lodge No. 34, to be relieved from the forfeiture of its charter for non-representation for two years, for reasons stated in the petition, reported in favor of granting the prayer of the petition, and the report was received and concurred in.

Removal of Penick Lodge No. 161.

The same committee, to which was referred the petition of Kiligee Lodge No. 199, to forbid the removal of Penick Lodge No. 161, in the direction of the former, in accordance with the permission of the M. W. Grand Master granted in vacation, reported against granting the petition and in favor of the removal, and the report was received and concurred in.

Case of Oberndoffer.

The same committee, to which was referred the request of Brother E. M. Vasser, late Secretary of Halo Lodge No. 5, to relieve Louis Oberndoffer, late Treasurer of that Lodge, from his disabilities and reinstate him, reported that the statement of Brother Vasser was not sufficiently clear to give the Grand Lodge jurisdiction, and the report was received and concurred in.

Tallassee and Doric Lodges.

The same committee, to which was referred the complaint of Tallassee Lodge No. 237 against Doric Lodge No. 406, for not paying over the fees of one receiving the degrees in the latter Lodge, though living within the jurisdiction of the former, and by permission of the former first asked and obtained, but expressly reserving the right to the fees, reported against such right, but the Grand Lodge reversed the opinion, and decided that Tallassee Lodge No. 237 had the right to receive the fees. (*See report of Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, supra.*)

Brother Henry A. Garrett, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 9, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in.

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 9.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 9, beg leave to make the following report. They have examined the Returns submitted to them, and find the following to be

CORRECT:

Chandler	No. 367	E. H. Cook	No. 381
Cross Plains	" 368	Ben Pope	" 383
Athelstan	" 369	Birmingham Fraternal	" 384
Bell's Landing	" 373	Munford	" 385
Lodor	" 374	Trinity	" 386
Gainesville	" 375	Blue Spring	" 387
Santa Creek	" 376	Newburgh	" 388
Robert E. Lee	" 379	Weathers	" 390
Ohatchee 1877	" 380		

INCORRECT:

PLEASANT SITE No. 364.—Reports 24 members, 3 of whom are M. G. and one blind, but only pays dues on 20; due the Grand Lodge 50 cents; table of Fees not filled out.

HOUSTON No. 365.—For 1877, name not indorsed on the back; returns disfigured by alterations and erasures. For 1878, Recapitulation not filled out; returns much disfigured by erasures and alterations.

RUSSELLVILLE No. 371.—For 1877 and 1878, in both the table of Fees erroneously filled out, and in the latter no postoffice given.

WEOGUFKA No. 378.—For 1877 and 1878: in the former, Recapitulation filled up in the wrong place and lettered out instead of figures; no year or dues set down on the back; seal not plumb; in the latter, much disfigured by alterations, and the date A. L. not filled out.

OHATCHEE No. 380.—Returns for 1878 much disfigured by inter-lineations; one affiliate's name not on the list of members; therefore, due the Grand Lodge 50 cents.

WATERLOO No. 382.—This return is for 2 years, and on its face the dues

are wrong, but the amount is probably right; the year A. L. not filled out.

VERNON No. 382.—Table of Fees incorrectly filled out.

Fraternally submitted.

HENRY A. GARRETT,
Chairman.

Brother Andrew A. Oden, from the Committee on Dispensations No. 1, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON DISPENSATIONS NO. 1.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your committee on Dispensations No. 1 beg leave to make the following report:

They have examined the minutes of

Hilton Lodge No. 419.
Shorterville Lodge No. 422.

They find the minutes well and neatly kept in all essential matters.

Your committee is of opinion that the Master of Hilton Lodge No. 419 should fill the place of Tiler and leave the office of Treasurer vacant when he has but seven members present.

Your committee would suggest to Shorterville Lodge No. 422 that the Secretary leave a margin on one side of each page of his minutes for side notes, as recommended in the Code, and that the Master sign the minutes when approved.

Your committee recommend that Charters be granted to each of these Lodges.

Fraternally submitted,

ANDREW A. ODEN,
Chairman.

Brother Henry H. Brown offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.

Resolved, That the installation of such of the Grand Officers, elect or appointed for the ensuing Masonic year, as have not heretofore been installed, take place this evening at 8½ o'clock, and that the same be made the special order for that hour, and that the Most Worshipful Grand Master be requested to perform the service of installation.

Brother Stephen H. Beasley offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

DUES OF RISING SUN NO. 29.

Resolved, That the Dues of Rising Sun Lodge No. 29 be remitted for the present year, that Lodge having suffered severely on account of the yellow fever.

Brother Nimrod W. E. Long offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

AS TO HURTVILLE LODGE NO. 346.

Resolved, That Hurtville Lodge No. 346 be and is hereby authorized, in addition to the powers granted by this M. W. Grand Lodge during its communication in 1875, over the property formerly belonging to Uchee Lodge No. 77, to move the Lodge building to Hurtville for the benefit of said Hurtville Lodge No. 346, or to sell the same and appropriate the proceeds to building, finishing, or furnishing a Hall for said Hurtville Lodge No. 346.

And then, after prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until this evening at 7 o'clock.

IN GRAND LODGE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, December 4, 1878.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 7 o'clock, the M. W. Grand Master, H. Clay Armstrong, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

Prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The minutes were read and approved.

Brother Anthony H. Sellers, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 7, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 7.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 7 beg leave to make the following report. They have carefully examined the returns submitted to them, and report the following

CORRECT:

Ervin	No. 257	Northern	No. 278
Bellville	" 260	Charles Baskerville	" 281
Talladega	" 261	Daviston	" 283
Walnut Grove—1877	" 264	Georgiana	" 285
Mount Pleasant	" 266	Norris	" 301
Pea River—2 years	" 271	Zion	" 304
Frankfort	" 275	Central City	" 305
Larkinsville	" 277		

INCORRECT:

GAYLESVILLE No. 256.—Reports several which have been suspended N.

P. D. "long since," and which have been, or should have been, reported at the time, one affiliate not reported in the list of members—therefore due the Grand Lodge 50 cents.

RANDOLPH No. 258.—Two E. A. reported under the head of "Master Masons," M. Gs. not put down in the table of Dues.

MAGNOLIA No. 259.—Table of Fees not filled out, no P. O. set down.

HIGHLAND No. 262.—Amount of dues put down opposite each name, which the Return does not require.

WALNUT GROVE No. 264.—For 1878, one initiate not set down in the list of members, therefore due the Grand Lodge 50 cents.

MERIDIAN No. 265.—Blanks in the caption not filled out with either name, number, or year; table of Dues and Fees both improperly filled up.

BUTLER SPRING No. 270.—One initiate not set down in the list of members, therefore due the Grand Lodge 50 cents.

CLIFTON No. 272.—Year A. L. not filled out, seal not plumb.

RICHMOND No. 282.—For 2 years, in neither is the year for which dues are paid indorsed on the back, in those for 1878 Master's name signed in the wrong place.

WALKER No 286.—One reported reinstated and 1 dimitted, but names not set down; seal illegible.

CLINTON No. 287.—Table of Fees incorrectly filled up, *none* is written instead of the fees for the degrees.

GILLESPIE No. 290.—Badly made out, initials used, several erasures and interlined with a pencil.

JONESBORO' No. 315.—No date to 1 dimission, name of lodge not set down after the Master's name at the foot.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

A. H. SELLERS,
Chairman.

SECTION 24 OF ARTICLE VI.

The R. W. Deputy Grand Master, Henry C. Tompkins, offered two resolutions as to the construction to be placed upon Section 24 of Article VI of the Constitution, and they were referred to the committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

Brother John G. Harris offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

CODIFICATION.

Resolved, That P. G. M. David Clopton, D. G. M. Henry C. Tompkins, and Grand Secretary Daniel Sayre, be appointed a committee, whose duty it shall be to compile all the laws and edicts now in force, beginning with the adoption of the Code, and to include the present communication, and to note such laws and edicts now in the Code that have been repealed or in any way changed, and report the same to the next Communication of the Grand Lodge.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

Brother Oliver S. Beers, Chairman of the Committee on Finance, made report, aud the report was received and concurred in. *(For Report see Appendix.)*

Brother James M. Brundidge, of the Committee on Endowment, offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

REPORT ON ENDOWMENT POSTPONED.

Resolved, That the committee to whom was referred a proposition of Washington Lodge No. 36, made with a view to the establishment of an *endowment plan*, be allowed until the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge to make their report.

Brother Green D. Campbell, from the Committee on Dispensations No. 2, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in :

REPORT ON DISPENSATIONS NO. 2.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama :

The Committee on Dispensations No. 2 beg leave to make the following report: That the petitioners, Brothers James Kent, Joseph S. Brooks, John Veitch, William F. Hamby, Benjamin F. Hainie, Ellis Veitch, Henry F. Fansher, James Shannon, George W. Evans, Isaac Veitch, and

George W. Smith, who pray you to grant them a Charter, have complied with the terms of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Alabama by filing each his Dimit and the certificate of the Secretary of Farrar Lodge No. 8, certifying that said Brethren were examined in said open Lodge, and were recommended by said Farrar Lodge No. 8, after examintion to be fully qualified to confer the three (3) degrees in Masonry, and that the town of Oxmoor, the proposed location of said new Lodge, is five miles from the nearest Lodge thereto. The proposed new Lodge to be named Daniel Pratt No. ——.

We therefore beg leave to recommend that said petitioners be granted a Charter in accordance with their prayer.

Fraternally submitted,

GREEN D. CAMPBELL,
GEO. C. SAUNDERS,
CHAS. C. McCALL,
JNO. M. WYLY,
Committee.

Brother Wilson Williams, from the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in :

REPORT ON MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama :

A majority of the committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred sundry resolutions and propositions, beg leave to submit the following report :

1st. That Section 24 of Article VI of the Constitution, is mandatory and not directory, and that the sentence of suspension cannot be entered at any other time than at the regular communication immediately preceding the 24th of June, and therefore recommend that the resolutions on this subject referred to them be not adopted.

D. CLOPTON,
I. A. WILSON,
H. A. WOOLF,
P. J. PILLANS,
WILSON WILLIAMS,
Committee.

2d. Your committee, upon investigation and examination are of the opinion, that in the case of the complaint of Tallassee Lodge No. 237 against Doric Lodge No. 406, that Tallassee Lodge No. 237 is entitled to the fees of Initiating, Passing, and Raising, of Brother A. Y. Moorefield, and thereforefore recommend that Doric Lodge No. 406 pay the same over to Tallassee Lodge No. 237.

The other matters referred to the committee they ask for further time to report upon.

DAVID CLOPTON,
R. W. COBB,
I. A. WILSON,
P. J. PILLANS,
H. A. WOOLF,
WILSON WILLIAMS,
Committee.

Brother Isaac C. Hall offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

AS TO INSTALLATION.

Resolved, That all the Grand Officers, both elected and appointed, of the Grand Lodge, being the same that were elected, appointed, and installed, at the last communication of the Grand Lodge, therefore it is the opinion of the Grand Lodge that the Ceremony of Installation may be omitted.

Brother Isaac Heyman offered the following resolution, and it was referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence:

AS TO UNAFFILIATED MASONS.

Resolved, That from and after the passage of this resolution, subordinate lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge may, at any time, suspend dimitted or unaffiliated masons, who shall have resided continuously within their jurisdiction for twelve months or more, and have made no application to any lodge for affiliation during that time, *provided*, however, that due and timely notice shall always be given to

the brother against whom such action is about to be taken, and he shall be permitted to attend and satisfy the lodge against such action.

Brother James A. Bilbro offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

PERMISSION TO BROTHER PETER GAITHER.

Resolved, That permission is hereby granted to Brother Peter Gaither to withdraw, without prejudice, the appeal taken by him from the decision of Tuskegee Lodge No. 57, in the case against Brother James O. A. Adams to this communication of the Grand Lodge.

REPORT ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

Brother William S. Foster, Chairman of the Committee on Leave of Absence, made report, and the report was received and ordered to be filed.

PRESENTATION OF TESTIMONIAL.

The M. W. Grand Master presented to P. G. M. Palmer J. Pillans the Service of Plate awarded to him at the last communication of the Grand Lodge in a short and aptly worded address, which was briefly and feelingly replied to by the recipient.

The following were announced by the M. W. Grand Master as the appointed officers and standing committees of the Grand Lodge:

GRAND OFFICERS.

Rev. William C. Bledsoe.....Grand Chaplain.
Joseph M. Kumpe.....Grand Marshal.
Joseph A. Adams.....Senior Grand Deacon.
John W. Jones.....Junior Grand Deacon.
Adam R. Baker.....Grand Steward.
John W. Martin.....Grand Steward.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Oliver S. Beers.....Mobile.
Benjamin F. Barnes.....Tallassee.
Reuben M. Craig.....Mount Rozelle
Neal B. Matthews.....Pine Apple.
William E. Matthews.....Echo.

SUSPENSIONS, EXPULSIONS, AND APPEALS.

William Y. Titcomb.....Pollard.
John G. Harris.....Livingston.
George P. Harrison Jr.....Auburn.
Rufus K. Boyd.....Guntersville.
Samuel K. McSpadden.....Centre.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

Joseph H. Johnson, M. D.....Talladega.
Wilson Williams.....Opelika.
Rufus W. Cobb.....Helena.
Palmer J. Pillans.....Mobile.
Isaiah A. Wilson.....Union Springs.
Henry A. Woolf.....Linden.

WORK.

James M. Brundidge.....Decatur.
James H. Joiner.....Talladega.
Myles J. Greene, M. D.....Talladega.
James A. Wood, M. D.....Pleasant Hill.
Thomas P. Brewer.....Mobile.

MINUTES READ.

There being no further business to be brought before the Grand Lodge at this Grand Communication, the minutes were read and approved.

CLOSED.

And then, after solemn prayer to the Throne of Grace by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama and its Masonic Jurisdiction was closed in Ample Form, and the M. W. Grand Master's Gavel fell at 15 minutes to 12 o'clock P. M.

DANIEL SAYRE,
Grand Secretary.

APPENDIX.

GRAND SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT.

M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama,

In Account with DANIEL SAYRE,

Grand Secretary.

1877.		CR.		
December	3	By Dues at this Grand Communication		$3,935 00
	21	" Amount of Contingent Fund.....		900 00
		CHARTERS.		
December	6	By Sulphur Springs No 414.....$	35 00	
	6	" Oak Level No. 415	35 00	
	6	" Broomtown No. 420...	35 00	
	6	" Cullman Fraternal No. 421.....	35 00	
	6	" Clanton No. 423.....	35 00—	175 00
1878.		DISPENSATIONS.		
January	11	By George Wilson No. 424.....	35 00	
March	15	" Temple No. 425.....	35 00—	70 00
		BACK DUES.		
January	10	By Benson No. 103.....	7 00	
	18	" Dean No. 112	14 00	
	24	" Nixburg No 154.....	8 00	
February	18	" Pleasant Hill No. 321.....	36 50	
March	19	" Alabama No. 3.....	50	
	23	" Viola No. 324....	13 50	
May	9	" North Border No. 391	10 50	
	9	" DeKalb No. 116	22 50	
July	1	" New Market No. 52.....	15 00	
August	21	" Larkinsville No. 277.....	16 00	
	28	" Daviston No. 283.....	30 00	
		" Harrison No. 246.....	11 00—	184 50
		INDIVIDUAL DUES.		
November	26	By James E. Heard.....	6 00	
January	17	" Reid & Loeb, Marion Fraternal No. 34	2 00	
February	6	" John A. Sears, George W. McEwen, Francis M. McEwen, H. C. Stewart, Simon B. Waldrop, A. D. Massey of Rockford No. 137	12 00	
March	15	" T. D. Jones, D. Y. Howze, J. H. Graham, Frank J. Levert, W. B. Modawell, W. F. Davis, John Moore of Marion Fraternal No. 34	7 00	

March	28	" James O. Bailey of M. F. No. 34...	1 00	
April	3	" Hendrix A. Hardy, Collerine No. 362	1 50	
	10	" R. P. Yeatman, M. F. No. 34.....	1 00	
	12	" Simon Ball, M. F. No. 34.....	6 00	
	18	" S. G. McLaughlin, M. F. No. 34...	1 00	
May	8	" John Ward, Thomas S. McDonald, Robert R. King, Penton and Funderburk, Rockford No. 137.....	10 00	
	29	" H. H. Hurt, M. F. No. 34.....	8 00	
August	20	" John Smith, Rockford No. 137....	3 00	
September	21	" John T. Rutledge, Philodorian No. 94	1 50	
October	22	" Marion A. Ray, Sycamore No. 328.	1 00	
November	13	" Robert S. Reid, same..... ..	1 00—	62 00
		19 copies Masonic Code.....		19 00
				$5,345 50

1877. DR.

December	21	To Cash paid Grand Treasurer.....	3,935 00	
1878.				
January	16	" Cash paid Grand Treasurer.....	175 00	
		" Negro labor.....	27 25	
		" Gas.....	43 10	
		" Postage.....	118 50	
		" Water Rate...	5 00	
		" Joel White.....	19 78	
		" Barrett & Brown.....	688 75	
		" Joseph & Anderson.....	13 25	
		" A. Dehler.....	15 00	
		" Work on Hall.....	10 00	
		" Engelhart.....	25 75	
		" Ohlander & Son.....	13 30	
		" Charles L. Ruth.....	100 00	
		" Expressage.	3 00	
November	26	" Amount paid Grand Treasurer.....	152 82—	$5,345 50

DANIEL SAYRE,
Grand Secretary.

Montgomery, December 2, 1878.

GRAND TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT.

WM. H. DINGLEY, Grand Treasurer,

In Account with the GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA.

1877.		DR.			
December	5.	To balance		$ 465 53	
	21.	" Received from Grand Secretary		3,935 00	
1878.					
January	16.	" " " " "		175 00	
November	26.	" " " " "		152 82	—$4,728 35
1877.		CR.			
December	6.	By Grand Master	1	16 00	
	6.	" Com. Foreign Correspondence.	2	200 00	
	6.	" Com. on Work, J. A. Wood	3	27 50	
	6.	" Grand Junior Warden	4	25 00	
	6.	" Com. on Susp. Exp. & Appeals	5	25 00	
	6.	" Com. on Work, J. H. Joiner	6	40 00	
	6.	" " " " M. J. Greene	7	38 00	
	6.	" Deputy Grand Master	8	38 50	
	8.	" Grand Senior Warden	9	13 50	
	8.	" Grand Steward, A. R. Baker	10	221 15	
	8.	" " " J. W. Martin	11	50 00	
	10.	" Com. on W'k, J, M. Brundidge	12	75 00	
	10.	" Grand Tiler	13	100 00	
	10.	" Grand Secretary	14	1,000 00	
	10.	" Grand Treasurer	15	150 00	
	10.	" Contingent Fund	16	900 00	
	21.	" Permanent Fund		500 00	
	21.	" H. C. Armstrong, Gr'd Master	17	50 00	
	21.	" Rent	18	752 75	
1878.					
December	2.	" Balance on hand		505 95	—$4,728 35

Montgomery, December 2, 1878.

WILLIAM H. DINGLEY,
Grand Treasurer.

REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF PERMANENT TRUST FUND.

TRUSTEES OF PERMANENT TRUST FUND,

In Account with GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA.

1877.		Dr.		
December	4.	To balance.....$		$159 76
	15.	" Rec'd from Grand Treasurer on acc't.	500 00	
1878.				
December	2.	" Interest on $2,700 6 per cent. bonds, January and July.....	162 00	
	2.	" Interest on $1,000 4½ per cent. bonds, March, June, Sept. and Dec.....	45 00	
	2.	" Interest on $500 4 per cent. bonds, Oct. '77, and Jan , Apr., Jul., Oct.	25 00	
	2.	" Interest on $700 4 per cent. bonds, April, July and October.....	21 00	
	2.	" Premium on coupons.....	3 07—	756 07
				$915 83

1878.		CR.		
January	—.	By premium on $700 4 per cent. bonds.	14 00	
	—.	" Express charges, exchange, &c.....	6 17	
	18.	" Bonds, 36039 to 36045, $100 each...	700 00	
December	2.	" Balance on hand.....	195 66—	$915 83

TOTAL AMOUNT OF BONDS ON HAND.

6 per cent. 1868's.....	$2,700 00	
4½ " "	1,000 00	
4 " "	1,200 00—	$4,900 00

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG, Grand Master.
WM. H. DINGLEY, Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE, Grand Secretary.

Trustees of the Fund.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Finance of the Grand Lodge of Alabama, have in pursuance of the duties assigned them, carefully examined the reports of the several Grand Officers charged with the collection, custody, and disbursement of the revenues and funds of the Grand Lodge, and take pleasure in reporting that they find the amounts and vouchers submitted to them correct and satisfactory.

The fiscal operations of the Grand Lodge for the year ending November 30, 1878, are correctly exhibited in the following condensed statement of Receipts and Disbursements for that period, viz:

RECEIPTS.

To Balance on hand 1st Dec. 1877, as per last report	$ 465 53	
" Cash paid in as dues to Annual Communication of 1877 (of which $2,148 00 belonged to General and $787 00 to P. T. Fund)	3,935 00	
" Cash paid in as back dues ($36 90 or 20 per cent. thereof due to P. T. Fund)	184 50	
" Cash paid for Charters December 6, 1877, due P. T. Fund	175 00	
" Cash paid for Dispensations Jan. 11, and March 15 1878, due P. T. Fund	70 00	
" Cash paid for 19 copies of Masonic Code	19 00	
" Cash paid for individual dues	62 00	
Total receipts to Dec. 1, 1878		$4,911 03

DISBURSEMENTS.

By Cash paid appropriations for ordinary expenses 1877-78	$3,805 08	
" Cash paid P. G. M. testimonial ordered by resolution of Grand Lodge	100 00	
" Cash paid to Permanent Trust Fund, being a part of total sum of $1,087 90 due that fund for 1877-78	500 00	
Total disbursements to Dec. 1, 1878		$4,405 08
Cash balance on hand Dec. 1, 1878		$ 505 95

It is to be remarked however that the balance of $505 95, as respects

the General Fund of the Grand Lodge, is worse than nominal; for it is less by $81 95 than the balance actually due the Permanent Trust Fund of earnings accruing to that fund during the year as stated thus, $1,087 90 total receipts of Trust funds less $500 00 paid Trustees on account thereof, leaving $587 90 due the Trustees, being $81 95 in excess of cash balance in the Treasury. This balance of $505 95 should be paid over to the Trustees at once, and the deficiency of $81 95 made good out of current receipts of general funds as early as practicable. Hereafter, for the sake of simplicity of reckoning and to conserve the integrity of the P. Trust Fund, the collections made by the R. W. Grand Secretary should be promptly separated from the general funds of the Grand Treasury, and paid over to the Trustees specifically as trust funds in accordance with the resolution of 1875, creating the Fund and providing for its investment and control.

Assuming, in view of the above statement, that instead of a balance in the treasury of $505 95, applicable to current expenses, there is really a deficiency of ordinary revenues amounting to $81 95, your committee proceed to state approximately the revenues accruing to this Annual Communication and applicable to current expenses for 1878-79, viz:

Dues for 1878 paid in December inst	$4,000 00	
Less 20 per cent. due P. T. Fund	800 00—	$3,200 00
Back Dues 1876 and 1877	1,000 00	
Less 20 per cent. due P. T. Fund	200 00—	800 00
Revenue derivable from other sources, 1878-79, appropriated to Trust Fund, say	200 00	
Total Trust Fund	$1,200 00	
Total Current Fund		$4,000 00

To defray the ordinary annual expenses of this Grand Lodge for the year ending Nov. 30, 1878, your committee recommend that the following amounts be set apart and appropriated to such disbursements, viz:

To R. W. Bro. Daniel Sayre, salary as G. Secretary	$1,000 00
" " " " W. H. Dingley, salary as G. Treasurer	150 00
" " " " James Davidson, salary as G. Tiler	100 00
" " " " Adam R. Baker, salary as Sr. Grand Steward	100 00
" " " " Jno. W. Martin, salary as Jr. Grand Steward	50 00
" " " " Adam R. Baker, incidental expenses	68 50
" Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence	200 00
" Defray expenses of Grand Officers attending to Grand Lodge duties, including $25 00 to Chairman of Committee on Suspensions, Expulsions and Appeals	125 00

To Members of Committee on Work, to defray expenses	200 00	
" Grand Master's contingent for traveling expenses for ensuing year of 1879	200 00	
" Rent of Grand Lodge Hall and offices	800 00	
" Grand Secretary's contingent, to defray expenses of printing, stationery, incidentals, etc. (the printing of reports to be awarded to the lowest best bidder as heretofore) for 1879	900 00	
Total appropriations		$3,893 50

PERMANENT TRUST FUND.

Your committee have examined into the condition of this increasingly important investment of the savings of the Grand Lodge, and find it prosperous and in safe custody, a little timidity in calling upon the Grand Lodge for the total amount accruing to the fund, on the part of your worthy Trustees, arising from a fear of embarrassing our treasury, being the only possible objection to the judicious management of this fund; but we are assured that this mistake will not again occur and we take occasion again to renew our confident assurances of great and beneficent results to inure to the fraternity of the State from this important enterprise.

We append a statement of the present and prospective condition of this fund, to which we call especial attention as supplemental to the more detailed report of the operations of the fund embodied in the Grand Treasurer's Annual Report:

OPERATIONS FOR 1877, 1878.

RECEIPTS.

1877.	To balance on hand Dec. 4, 1877	$159 76		
"	" received from Grand Lodge in part of $1,087 90 due	500 00		
1878.	" received for interest on bonds belonging to this fund	256 07		
	Total receipts		$	915 83

1878. DISBURSEMENTS.

Jan. 5.	Paid for $700 in U. S. 4 per cent. Bonds	$714 00		
	" charges and exchange	6 17		
	Total		$	720 17
	Balance on hand to be invested		$	195 66
	Balance due the Fund by Grand Lodge			587 90
	Estimate of accruing revenue 1878-79			1,200 00
	Probable amount to be invested January, 1879		$1,983	56

MEMO.—The bonds already acquired by this fund to date are $2,700 6 per cent.; $1,000 4½, and $1,200 4 per cent; in all $4,900 U. S. securities, which are held by the Trustees in safe deposit.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

OLIVER S. BEERS, Chairman.
HENRY H. BROWN,
ISAAC A. McMILLAN,
DANIEL SMITH,
JNO. DELOACH.
Committee on Finance.

MEMORANDA.

REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER GRAND LODGES NEAR THE GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA.

Wilson Williams	*Opelika*	Arkansas.
———	———	Brazil.
Henry A. Woolf	*Linden*	Canada.
Robert D. Webb, M. D	*Livingston*	District Columbia.
Morris K. Taylor	*Meridianville*	England.
David Clopton	*Montgomery*	Florida.
Joseph H. Johnson, M. D	*Talladega*	Georgia.
Daniel Sayre	*Montgomery*	Illinois.
Peleg Brown	*Mobile*	Indiana.
Daniel Sayre	*Montgomery*	Iowa.
William A. O'Hara, M. D	*Harpersville*	Ireland.
John J. Delchamps	*Mobile*	Italy.
——— ———	———	Kansas.
Daniel Sayre	*Montgomery*	Kentucky.
David Clopton	*Montgomery*	Louisiana.
James B. Luckie, M. D	*Birmingham*	Maine.
Joel White	*Montgomery*	Maryland.
———	———	Minnesota.
Thomas M. Bragg, M. D	*Greenville*	Mississippi.
Daniel Sayre	*Montgomery*	Missouri.
Palmer J. Pillans	*Mobile*	Nebraska.
Oliver S. Beers	*Mobile*	New Jersey.
Henry C. Tompkins	*Montgomery*	New York.
George D. Norris, M. D	*New Market*	North Carolina.
Daniel Sayre	*Montgomery*	Nova Scotia.
Daniel Sayre	*Montgomery*	Oregon.
Isaiah A. Wilson	*Union Springs*	Pennsylvania.
George D. Norris, M. D	*New Market*	Tennessee.
Nathaniel D. Cross	*Selma*	Texas.
———	———	West Virginia
Palmer J. Pillans	*Mobile*	Wisconsin.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA NEAR OTHER GRAND LODGES.

ELBERT H. ENGLISH	*Little Rock*	Arkansas.
PEDRO ANTONIO GOMEZ	*Rio Janeiro*	Brazil.
SAMUEL B. HARMAN	*Toronto*	Canada.
PHILLIP H. HOOE	*Washington*	District Columbia.
BRACSTON BAKER	*London*	England.
ABRAHAM J. PREVATT	*Jacksonville*	Florida.
WILLIAM A. LOVE	*Atlanta*	Georgia.
JAMES A. HAWLEY	*Dixon*	Illinois.
MARTIN H. RICE	*Indianapolis*	Indiana.
OZIAS P. WATERS	*Muscatine*	Iowa.
GEORGE HUBARD.	*Dublin*	Ireland.
THOMAS J. ANDERSON	*Topeka*	Kansas.
CHARLES TILDEN	*Louisville*	Kentucky.
SAMUEL H. TODD	*New Orleans*	Louisiana.
JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND	*Portland*	Maine.
JOHN COATES	*Baltimore*	Maryland.
RICHARD A. JONES	*Rochester*	Minnesota.
FRANK BURKITT	*Okolona*	Mississippi.
JAMES E CADLE	*Chillicothe*	Missouri.
JAMES W. CHADDOCK	*Nebraska City*	Nebraska.
WILLIAM S. WHITEHEAD	*Newark*	New Jersey.
DANIEL T. WALDEN	*New York*	New York.
DONALD W. BAIN	*Raleigh*	North Carolina.
ROBERT C. FRASER	*Halifax*	Nova Scotia.
JAMES R. BAILEY	*Corvallis*	Oregon.
RICHARD VAUX	*Philadelphia*	Pennsylvania.
TOWNSEND A. THOMAS	*Clarksville*	Tennessee.
EDWARD M. LACKLAND	*Charleston*	West Virginia.
JOSEPH HAMILTON	*Milwaukee*	Wisconsin.

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to snbmit herewith their annual report on correspondence for 1878, comprising some general comments on controversial topics, demanding the serious and thoughtful attention of the Craft, as well as their usual annual review of the proceedings of corresponding Grand Bodies. They have received from the hands of the R. W. Grand Secretary the proceedings of the following Grand Lodges, viz:

Arkansas..... .for 1877
California..... " 1877
Colorado..... " 1877
Connecticut..... " 1878
Dakota..... " 1877
Delaware..... " 1877
District of Columbia..... " 1877
Florida..... " 1878
Georgia..... " 1877
Idaho..... " 1877
Indian Territory..... " 1877
Illinois..... " 1877
Iowa..... " 1878
Kansas..... " 1877
Kentucky..... " 1877
Louisiana..... " 1878
Maine..... " 1878
Maryland..... " 1877
Massachusetts..... " 1878
Michigan..... " 1778
Minnesota..... " 1878
Missouri..... " 1877
Mississippi..... " 1878
Nebraska..... " 1877

Nevada..... " 1877
New Brunswick..... " 1877
New Hampshire..... " 1377
New Jersey..... " 1878
New York..... " 1878
North Carolina..... " 1877
Pennsylvania..... " 1877
Quebec..... " 1878
South Carolina..... " 1877
Tennessee..... " 1877
Utah..... " 1877
Virginia..... " 1877
Washington..... " 1877
West Virginia..... " 1877
Wisconsin..... " 1877
Wyoming..... " 1877

Forty reports in all, which we review, annexed in alphabetical order, with as much elaborateness as time and space will permit; but by no means as exhaustively as the merits of these valuable compendiums of Masonic thought and work would have authorized and really seemed to demand.

We are again compelled to express our regret at the absence from our files of the Reports from the Grand Lodges of CANADA and RHODE ISLAND which for the second time have failed to reach us in time for review. We also regret the failure *this* year of several other Reports, with their valuable and interesting contents, which have rarely heretofore been absent from our table; such, for instance, as those of Indiana, Ohio, Oregon, Texas and Vermont; and we respectfully appeal to the Grand Secretaries of these Grand Bodies to supply these deficiencies and provide against similar occurrences in the future.

MASONIC STATISTICS.

The plan heretofore adopted by your committee of presenting the statistics of each Grand Lodge reviewed, in a brief compendium at the close of such review, has not been at all satisfactory to them, and they have more than once essayed the effort to present such information in tabulated form, which is the only shape in which such details can be interestingly or instructively prepared for the general reader. Several difficulties have heretofore prevented the preparation of the tables we had projected, and not the least among the impediments is the frequent absence from our files of important reports, as heretofore complained of.

Having no perfect data ourselves for the preparation of such a statistical table as we desired to make up, our attention was attracted to the table furnished by Bro. Josiah H. Drummond, of Maine, and finding it remarkably accurate in its details (differing from our plan mainly in its omission of the number of lodges in each jurisdiction and the average membership of the lodges), we have concluded to put ourselves again under obligations to Bro. Drummond by adopting his table in this report as its compendium of statistics.

TABLE OF STATISTICS.

GRAND LODGES.	Members.	Raised.	Admitted and Restored.	Withdrawn.	Expelled.	Suspended.	Suspended for non-payment of dues	Died.	Rejected.
Alabama	7,829	242	501	381	21	16	568	148	64
Arkansas	8,291	347	435	395	24	25	322	210	....
British Columbia	312	15	20	14	0	0	2	6	6
California	12,168	574	662	486	8	10	354	162	282
Canada	17,220	1,510	501	862	3	30	503	181	....
Colorado	1,486	120	105	71	3	....	59	13	56
Connecticut	15,016	441	106	162	8	9	138	155	149
Dakota	253	..	..	1	2	....	....	*5	2	...
Delaware	1,266	36	12	16	0	2	.....	12	3
Dist. of Columbia	2,750	126	76	46	2	0	149	38	.. .
Florida	2,212	115	156	80	2	..	*55	39	38
Georgia	13,195	393	317	593	60	..	*622	189	120
Idaho	405	20	8	21	2	2	....	6	4
Illinois	30,388	1,813	884	*1,325	65	..	1,498	417	535
Indiana	28,101	1,162	646	1,061	204	59	495	335	...
Indian Territory	260	36	17	23	0	0	4	1	....
Iowa	17,876	1,056	561	878	16	39	. ..	116	..
Kansas	6,589	305	426	305	8	7	282	63	...
Kentucky	19,914	890	580	862	40		*1,484	271	..
Louisiana	6,034	149	167	175	4	.	*290	133	....
Maine	19,436	572	829	296	7	4	262	211	201
Manitoba	316	35	23	29	0	0	5	5	
Maryland	5,598	92	5	66	4	.	100	38	..
Massachusetts	26,214	1,005	1,359	543	4	0	878	271	360
Michigan	27,055	1,058	566	701	46		*669	238	448
Minnesota	6,739	374	232	232	4	10	150	44	...
Mississippi	8,416	265	433	127	13	28	602	148	.
Missouri	23,290	780	824	873	85	82	336	295	339
Montana	664	25	25	34	1	3	16	12	15
Nebraska	2,889	139	289	112	5	. .	*57	16	....

TABLE OF STATISTICS—Continued.

GRAND LODGES.	Members.	Raised.	Admitted and Restored.	Withdrawn.	Expelled.	Suspended.	Suspended for non-payment of dues.	Died.	Rejected.
Nevada	1,515	51	79	62	2	0	58	8	29
New Brunswick	2,236	139	56	104	1	.	*100	20	...
New Hampshire	7,647	206	..	..	...	..	.....	..	..
New Jersey	12,051	453	265	201	7	4	326	154	....
New Mexico	165	.....	..	..	..	..	...	..	..
New York	78,913	3,081	1,346	1,246	41	16	5,167	917	816
North Carolina	11,710	245	117	173	17	26	239	114	86
Nova Scotia	3,499	327	115	159	0	8	141	47	78
Ohio	29,296	1,132	1,040	728	159	24	1,744	321	...
Oregon	2,364	155	108	114	9	6	42	27	48
Pennsylvania	38,236	1,334	372	424	..	..	1,328	461	...
P. E. Island	584	22	9	...	0	0	3	3	....
Quebec	2,810	219	78	128	..	..	*101	30	.. .
Rhode Island	4,326	91	86	90	0	3	. ..	51	51
South Carolina	6,913	262	.....	195	..	.	344	93	15
Tennessee	17,911	479	532	864	31	314	488	275	...
Texas	16 850	921	1,120	1,134	52	..	304	297	369
Utah	367	29	19	17	0	1	2	2	12
Vermont	8,649	216	71	137	3	2	95	76	78
Virginia	10,108	....	89	338	11	15	223	121	...
Washington	808	53	63	42	0	5	18	9	22
West Virginia	3,365	172	113	95	7	7	172	46	52
Wisconsin	10,688	550	264	348	7	19	249	91	211
Wyoming	300	29	15	10	2	0	2	2	. .
Total	592,443	23,861	16,744	17,681	986	770	21,051	7038	4374

*Including suspensions of all kinds.

COMPARISON OF STATISTICS.

	1878. Gr. Lodges.	1878. Totals.	1877. Gr. Lodges.	1877. Totals.	1876. Gr. Lodges.	1876. Totals.
Members	54	592,443	52	602,089	50	594,617
Raised	51	23,861	50	30,695	48	34,208
Admissions, etc	51	16,744	46	17,976	46	19,231
Dimissions	51	17,681	39	18,920	47	18,475
Expulsions	48	986	49	1,039	47	908
Suspensions	37	770	37	1,064	31	775
Susp'usions npt. dues	48	21,051	49	17,261	47	15,984
Deaths	52	7,038	50	7,102	48	6,804
Rejections	29	4,374	28	6,142	28	6,340

ill be seen that there has been a falling off in the total membership. the first time we have had occasion to report this fact. The dimis- exceed the affiliations, both of which, however, have decreased the year. But the suspensions for non-payment of dues have in- about *four thousand* in *forty-eight* out of the *fifty-four* Grand Lodges, g that the "pruning process" is still going on. The reduction in rship is owing, to quite an extent, to the surrender or forfeiture of s: for instance, our membership in Maine has fallen off, but if the rs of a lodge whose charter has been surrendered during the past ould be counted, there would be a small increase. But there is nsolation—although the *number* has decreased, we believe the *quality* of the membership has increased."

ust be borne in mind that the report of 1878 (table) here referred es to figures for 1877, while that of 1877, used as a comparative ives the statistics of 1876; *i. e.* the Maine reports for 1878 and 1877 ly refer to conditions existing in 1877 and 1876.

THE CUBAN CONTROVERSY.

n with persuasive, if not convincing reasoning, and a zeal indi- *his* perfect conviction of the justice of the cause he advocated, r Ramon Illa, Grand Representative, issued from New York his , in 1877, to this and other American Grand Lodges, urging the ition of the Grand Lodge of Cuba, as the true and only legitimate ing Masonic Grand Jurisdiction of that Island, we were almost in- to accord to the Body he represented the recognition claimed for is eloquent circular appeal. This predilection for the Grand Lodge a, was largely superinduced by the able advocacy of her claims by minent authorities, in Masonic jurisprudence, as Bros. Jno. W. s of New York, and Richard Vaux of Pennsylvania, who then and ge and defend the rights and privileges of the so-called Grand Lodge a. We have, however, been taught, by experience, to be very cau- n attempting to decide questions of legitimacy or regularity in the ic bodies composed of men of the Latin race, who acknowledge alle- to or work under the government of GRAND ORIENTS, Supreme Grand ils, or any other ramification or evolution of A. and A. S. R. Ma-

In the first place, we are aware that, in spite of the universality sonry, the Masonic organizations of French, Spanish, or Italian s, are very *diverse* from those of America and admit of acts as well ourage habits of thought quite averse to our Masonic ideas. Again, ow personally, essentially, nothing of Scotch Right formulas or ples of organization. This, as we have intimated, has made us f speech in these oft-recurring controversies, and while thus halt-

ing, as it were, fearing to do what our first impulse suggested, and recommend the reorganization of the Grand Lodge of Cuba, behold the curtain rises upon a new or greatly altered scene, and the GRAND LODGE OF COLON (ISLAND OF CUBA) comes upon the stage, armed "cap-a-pie," in defense of her ancient prerogatives and supremacy. This controversy has elicited many able and instructive circulars and pamphlets from the Grand Lodge of Colon, which added to the published documents issued by the GRAND LODGE OF CUBA illustrative of *her* right to exclusive jurisdiction on the Island Cuba, make a record of controversial word-warfare very interesting indeed, but quite too voluminous for reproduction in these pages.

Our reading of this controversy between the Grand Lodge of Colon and the Grand Lodge of Cuba, inclines us to coincide with Brother Drummond of Maine, in his conclusions thereanent, and we quote below his *resume* of the argument as fair and just to both disputants; while we recommend that no definite action be taken in the claims of either contesting Grand Lodge, at this communication, in the hope that *time* and reflection will enable the combatants to reconcile among themselves a very regretable dispute, not at all incapable of local adjustment. Bro. Drummond thus alludes to the controversy, viz:

Bro. Ramon Illa, in behalf of the adherents of the Grand Lodge of Cuba, defends their action on the ground that the original Grand Lodge of Colon committed suicide in 1868, by submitting to the Supreme Council, that it was created anew in 1873, and continued to be a part of the Grand Orient until after the first of August, 1876: and, therefore, that the lodges, which formed the Grand Lodge of Cuba, had the right to disown and repudiate it. But we think that this was an after-thought, and that, while it is an arrow shot by Bro. Illa, it comes from Bro. Simon's quiver.

At the time of the attempted formation of the Grand Lodge of Cuba, there were in Cuba the following lodges, which were not notified to take part, and did not take part in that movement, viz: the three lodges which formed the original Grand Lodge of Colon formed in 1859; and one lodge chartered by it in 1864, one in 1865, one in 1866, one in 1867, and two in 1868, before the alleged suicide—nine in all.

Bro. Illa says that, in 1873, the Supreme Council re-installed the Grand Lodge of Colon, "though only as a section *thereof*," that is to say, as a section of *itself*, but that is not correct, it was a "section" of the *Grand Orient*, of which the Supreme Council was a "section" also: we remark here, that in the Grand Orient system the Grand Lodge is not subordinated to the Supreme Council, as Bro. Vaux assumes, but is *associated with* the Supreme Council in the Grand Orient, with full powers over Symbolic Masonry.

But all doubts on this point are dissipated by the fact that on August 28, 1874, a compact was made, by which the sovereign rights of the Grand Lodge of Colon over Symbolic Masonry were acknowledged and pro-

claimed, and to this compact the Havana, Cardenas and Matanzas Lodges were parties. This compact was actually signed by at least one of the Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of Cuba!

After August, 1874, the Grand Lodge of Colon was either a regular Grand Lodge or it was not; if it was then regular, it has ever since continued to be, and now is, regular, and the so-called Grand Lodge of Cuba, of necessity, is not. If it was irregular, it involves the Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Cuba in a curious absurdity; if it was not regular, the "Provincial Mother Lodge" was a clandestine Body, the lodges created both by it and the "Mother Lodge" were and are clandestine, and these Brethren proclaim themselves loyal to a clandestine Body, and united with clandestine lodges in the formation of a Grand Lodge! For *three* of the chartered lodges which Bro. Illa says took part in the formation of the Grand Lodge of Cuba, were chartered by the Grand Lodge of Colon, after, he says, it had committed suicide, and the four lodges U. D. were created by this "Provincial Mother Lodge," herself created by the Grand Lodge of Colon, after he says it committed suicide!

The Grand Lodge of Cuba cannot be recognized for several reasons:

1. Because there was a regular Grand Lodge then existing in Cuba, or else the Grand Lodge of Cuba was formed by a convention composed in part of the representatives of clandestine lodges.

2. Because the officers undertaking to represent their lodges were not authorized by their lodges to do so.

3. Because the Convention was not legally called, nor all, or even a majority, of the regular lodges in the Island notified thereof.

4. Because a majority of the regular lodges in the jurisdiction did not participate in the movement: if we regard those chartered before the alleged "suicide of the Grand Lodge," *nine* did not participate, and it is not claimed that more than *six* did; if we regard *all* the lodges, *twenty-four* did not participate, and not more than *nine* did.

We desire to submit to Bros. Simons and Vaux the following questions, fraternally requesting from them a careful consideration and a direct answer:

1. If the Grand Lodge of Colon was not a regular Grand Lodge on August 1, 1876, had it not been irregular during the three years previous?

2. Is a lodge, chartered by an irregular Grand Lodge, a regular lodge?

3. Were the three lodges chartered by the Grand Lodge of Colon between 1873 and 1876, which took part in the formation of the Grand Lodge of Cuba, regular or irregular?

4. If irregular, is not the Grand Lodge, which they took part in forming, for that reason irregular, also?

5. Are the Masters and Wardens of a lodge authorized to represent their lodge in the formation of a Grand Lodge, without a vote of the lodge empowering them to do so?

6. Can a minority of lodges in a given jurisdiction legally form a Grand Lodge for that jurisdiction?

7. Must not, at least, a majority of the lodges in the jurisdiction be notified of a convention to form a Grand Lodge, in order to make their action valid?

We are compelled to say, after a very careful examination, that the proceedings of our Cuban Brethren, in their attempt to form a Grand Lodge, were, in our opinion, utterly in conflict with masonic law, and subversive of the principles upon which all other American Grand Lodges have been formed.

THE GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE.

Nothing within our recollection or reading ken of Masonic events, has so startled, indeed has so painfully shocked and grieved the world of Masonry, as that latest demonstration of disquiet and INFIDELITY forced upon their unwilling notice by the recent movement of the Grand Orient of France (the highest masonic organization of that great country controling the interests and destiny of Symbolic Masonry), in eliminating from her constitution all reference to Deity and virtually denying

GOD AS T. G. A. O. T. U.

The constitution of the Grand Orient originally declared as follows, viz:

Freemasonry, an institution essentially philanthropic, philosophical, and progressive, has for its object the inquiry after truth, the study of universal morality, science and arts, and the practice of benevolence.

1. Its principles are the *existence of God*, the immortality of the soul, and human solidarity.
2. It regards liberty of conscience as the common right of every man, and excludes no person on account of his belief.
3. Its motto is Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity.

This declaration, though not entirely unobjectionable to masonic minds, in the doubt naturally suggested as to how far the non-exclusion declaration "on account of his belief," in clause number 2, modified or restricted the very full and acceptable exegesis of God and immortality, embodied in clause number 1, was yet accepted as conformable to universal masonic traditions, practice and belief. In an evil hour, unfortunately, a proposition was made to amend the above declaration of principles, and still more unfortunately for the Grand Orient and for Masonry, the proposed amendments were adopted! As amended, her constitution now reads thus:

Freemasonry, an institution essentially philanthropic, philosophical, and progressive, has for its object the inquiry after truth, the study of universal morality, science and arts, and the practice of benevolence.

1. Its principles are absolute liberty of conscience and human solidarity.
2. It excludes no person on account of his belief.
3. Its motto is Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity.

Few, indeed, were the *word* changes required to hurl the Grand Orient of France from the lofty pinnacle of a God recognizing fraternity of immortals, to the deep degredation of a God denying association of degenerate imitators of these iconoclastic madmen, called scientists; who, alas! in these days of intellectual pride, rule the minds and destroy the souls of their misguided devotees.

Small, indeed, was the effort required to change this paradise of God into the arid desert of infidelity; to plunge our helpless craft into the bottomless deep of nonentity; to launch, as it were, our rudderless shallop upon the shoreless ocean of disbelief, where not even the glimmer of a hope-inspiring star is permitted to light the gloom of its dark and chilling despair.

But small as was the effort, apparently, required to produce this change of words and ideas, the effect is infinite in its significance and ramifications. It is a transition from light to darkness—not that physical darkness which, in the beginning, was dispelled by the FIAT of the ALMIGHTY when "Sit Lux" proclaimed the will of Jehovah, "et Lux fuit" responded to cheer and animate the face of obedient nature—who shall now return to France her self-renounced heritage among the sons of God? Will she, as heretofore in political propagandism, anon running riot in war and bloodshed to enforce an exaggerated fiction of liberty, then, exhausted, falling an easy prey to oppressions, until her sad experiences and the ripening of time have fitted her at last for the reception and demonstration of true republicanism—a condition now happily illustrating her political emancipation—will she, we ask, tire at length of this riotous outbreak of infielity to God and Religion, and, as in her former political divergencies, return to duty and allegiance with lessons of wisdom enforced by long and sad experiences, to become hereafter the *pillar of strength* to the true masonic temple dedicated to belief in GOD? We know not, but are not without hope—our motto is "God understands, and He disposes."

We have many reasons for hoping and expecting a speedy withdrawal of this obnoxious deliverance; among which an abiding faith in the intelligence and masonic integrity of French masons is one of our strong reliances. The French, we think, are too intelligent not to see the inappropriateness, at least, of a deliverance which separates them, by an impassable gulf, from all other masons. Nor will they fail soon to discover the absurdity of a declaration which proclaims the *brotherhood* of a race of *unparented* orphans—without the Fatherhood of God this Brotherhood of man is meaningless jargon. Without God in the world what is *liberty?* but chaos and confusion—what *equality?* but contention, and the "survival of the strongest" *animal*. Without God indeed what is *fraternity?* but inherited animalism and vagabonism. Admitted the fatherhood of God, then the brotherhood of man becomes a tangible, comprehensive idea, a fact of potential significance, a sweet prophecy of good here and of immortality hereafter.

But deny to man his God derived spiritual heirship and you relegate

him to that bad iminence, assigned him by arrogant science (so-called) of a *high grade* animal, the Prince of monkeys whose good fortune it has been during the lapse of ages to doff his caudal appendage and shape his limbs voice and habits to the necessities of his advanced condition. Ah! Brethren of France give heed to the absurdities which attach to the effort of exalting a God forsaken animal called man, and know that the true man is an inspiration of Divinity, or as the writer has heretofore expressed the thought that man is a *spiritual idea expressed in matter*—an immortal spark of infinity, enwrapped in the mantle of decaying flesh, but preserving nevertheless his spiritual relationship to and tending towards his spiritual Source—a being of grand capabilities, and susceptible of infinite progress and cultivation, which can, however, inure to him only through the laws provided by God, for his spiritual enfrancisement and elevation—a being entitled by God's decree to "liberty, equality and fraternity" here, and a life of immortality beyond.

Men, ignorant and degraded, have linked their affections to the sensual and tangible, and elevated matter above spirit, mistaking the creature for the Creator. Yea, men of high culture and worldly fame, reveling in the very luxuriance of their intellectural endowments and triumphs, have basely betrayed their master.

Not so with Masonry; the light by which she works casts no flickering ray athwart the spiritual horizon. Allegiance to God, love to man!—is the watchword and reply to all who approach her bulwarks; our brethren "buy the truth and sell it not."

They have found the pearl of great price and wear it as a spiritual trophy.

The brightest star in their galaxy of truths is the revelrtion of the spiritual relationship of man to God, and of man to man—the fatherhood of God, the brotherhood of man; this is the fountain of her waters of life, the secret of the perennial vigor and unyielding strength of this old, old bulwark of freedom.

Hers is the banner of love glowing with the beams of heavenly inspiration, and scattering blessings from its shining folds in sparks of celestial light.

Masonry, in its pure craft organization, does not claim to be a religion, in the prevalent sense of that term, though she loves and cherishes every true religious sentiment and experience.

We have moreover an abiding conviction that our Brethren of the Grand Orient of France will watch with intelligent inquiring interest the archæological researches and discoveries, continually being made among the monumental relics of ancient times, yea of pre-historic ages, which

all attribute the origin of those induring architectural structures to the handy craft of societies of workmen combining in their organizations the double purpose of secret investigations of (searches after) truth as for themselves, while, also, rendering service to the nations around them by employing their mechanical skill whenever enduring and ornamental structures were needed.

Those who practiced the *ancient mysteries* also builded the ancient monuments, whether of the extinct races of Central America or of the still represented inhabitants of the Orient, of Egypt, of Greece, and of Rome—all these master workmen we say, as their character and history is developed in the eager search after antiquities, were Brethren of the mystic tie of which modern masonry is a type and symbol. Still questionable it may be in identity, but becoming more and more assuredly recognizable as heirs to this ancient inheritance of fame, as the light of truth continues to penetrate deeper and deeper into the hidden arches and recesses where for so many neglected ages these eloquent revelations of man's early history and achievements have lied buried. The tombs of a long forgotten world, together with the monuments of the fast departing civilizations of Hindostan, of Egypt and of Greece, all attest the masonic rites of these ancient master builders of whom we are degenerate speculative representatives. Mark well this assurance, which we proclaim without fear of successful contradiction, in all these exhumed trophies of masonic art and handywork, one fact above all others is distinctly, emphatically proclaimed. The masters of the ancient mysteries believed in and taught the knowledge of God and immortality. The masons of old were not atheists; nor do we believe that there is now a true mason on this habitable globe (the action of the Grand Orient of France notwithstanding,) who can truthfully affirm that he does not believe in God.

But this subject is growing upon us, and as it would require *volumes* to elucidate it in the light of advancing science and research, we beg here to desist; urging, however, with kindest importunity, upon all masons everywhere, to study with interest and zealously the history of their loved organization, in its *ancient* and *modern* exemplifications of the true attributes of God, and the true relations of man to his Maker.

ARKANSAS.

The 39th Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Arkansas, convened in Little Rock, October the 8th, 1877, and was opened in AMPLE FORM by the M. W. Grand Master, M. M. McGuire.

Present, all the Grand Officers with six District Deputy Grand Masters

and the Representatives of 78 Subordinate Lodges. The volume containing these proceedings is adorned with an excellent engraved portrait of P. G. M. E. H. English, thus enabling us to know the features of one long endeared to the masonic world for his excellent record as a true custodian of the work and a worthy exemplar of the beauties and mysteries of our art.

THE GRAND MASTERS ADDRESS,

Barring a little unnecessary sky-larking "amid the revolving spheres," in his exordium, is a very readable and creditable message. He calls for MEN to fill the ranks of the advancing Masonic battalions; but says also:

Give us men, made in the image of their Creator, and Masonry will have no trouble in convincing the world of its good effects. We need to elevate the standard high; none but the worthy should find an entrance through our portals. The internal should be inspected more than the external. The applicant may have two feet, two hands, and a big head, and yet be destitute of heart, and, if so, we opine he wants more of being "a perfect man," according to the Masonic rule than he would with a full grown heart and a missing foot. We are gratified to report that the standard of Masonry has been elevated in our State much higher than it was a few years ago. The outlook for Masonry in Arkansas is brighter than it has been; all things are improving. While we have been constituting but few new lodges, we have been reviving the old. Several old lodges, that it was thought were dead and only awaiting interment, have been revived to a new life, and it is hoped they may never again fall into a comatose condition.

He announces a serious calamity by which all the records of the Grand Lodge were destroyed by the fire, of December 19th, 1876, which consumed the office of the Grand Secretary, with all of its valuable contents of "library, records, books, papers, etc." We can readily appreciate the difficulties and embarrassments resulting from these serious, and, in many respects irreparable losses, and sympathise with our brethren of Arkansas in their dilemma.

The Grand Master reports twenty decisions, some of which were objected to by his Grand Lodge, and will, undoubtedly, also be disputed in other jurisdictions. The objectionable decisions we quote, and with them quote also the dissenting opinions of the committee on "Masonic law and usages."

The Grand Master decides as follows:

Is it necessary for the Past Master's degree to be conferred on a W. M. elect, prior to his installation? We regard the Past Master's degree as a modern innovation, accepted by usage, but wholly unsupported by law. The full and complete *installation* ceremonies seats the master elect in the Oriental Chair, and qualifies and empowers him to preside; and

no *degree* conferred in an irregular manner, unknown and unrecognised by Symbolic Masonry, can do more.

I decided the loss of a foot, the missing member being artificially supplied, enabling the candidate to take all necessary steps, was no bar to the lodge receiving and acting upon his petition, and initiating him, if found worthy; the internal, more than the external, being what Masonry regards, and moral fitness has more to do in making "a perfect man," than a physical conformation.

The committee (*sustained* by the Grand Lodge) dissent from the above decisions as follows, viz:

The Master elect may preside over the lodge after he is installed in the ordinary open form, but his installation is not full and *complete*, and he is not *seated in the Oriental Chair*, in the true Masonic sense, until the order of Past Master is conferred upon him in a convocation of Past Masters duly assembled.

We do not concur in the remark of the M. W. Grand Master, that "the Past Master's degree is a modern innovation, accepted by usage, but wholly unsupported by law."

The *order* of Past Master, as conferred in convocations upon Masters elect, is as old and as constitutional as any degree in Masonry.

As a Chapter degree it is American, adopted as part of our capitular system nearly a hundred years ago, as above observed, and is made by the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the United States and the constitutions of the State Grand Chapters a regular degree.

As an order, conferred in convocations, or as a degree of the Chapter series, it is supported by law, and when properly conferred, like all of the orders and degrees of Masonry, is instructive and improving. An accomplished Past Master is familiar with beautiful ceremonies, and with the constitutions and laws of Symbolical Masonry.

We most respectfully submit that decision No. *seventeen* (17) is not law.

A man who has lost a foot, a leg, arm or hand, cannot be made a mason, though the missing member be artificially supplied.

The decision is in conflict with the Ancient Constitutions, and the approved decisions and edicts of this Grand Lodge.

By Sec. 45, Standing Regulations, Proceedings 1866, p. 192, which is but declaratory of an old Constitutional landmark:

"No person must be made a Mason unless he be a man of full age, of good character, honest and upright; he must have the use of all his limbs and members, as a man ought to have, and with no maim, nor such defect as may incapacitate him to learn the art, to give all due signs and salutations, to be made a fellow craft and master in due time; honestly and reputably to acquire the means of subsistence, and to comply fully and entirely with all the duties and obligations assumed by him towards the Craft at large and individual brethren, and such as Masonic Law and Usage impose, or require of a good Mason."

It is important for a man to have a good heart and a tolerably good head to be made a Mason, but legs and feet, and arms and hands are also important and indispensable, and wood. or cork, and metal, will not supply the place of flesh and bone, nerves and muscles.

OF ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE,

The Grand Master thus speaks, and his words are prophetic of that disaster to this noble enterprise which we have long dreaded and would gladly have aided in averting:

This institution has arrived at that point where it is viewed by the Masons of the State very much like the man viewed his bargain when he had bought an elephant, and did not have the means to fit out his menagerie and run his show. The elephant was too valuable to kill, and would not pay to keep, and he was in a dilemma what was best to do with his property. We have ever been a friend to this Institution. We honor the men who founded the College, and hoped to see it firmly established ere they passed away. These men were inspired by the truest and best principles of our noble Order. They consecrated their work with their prayers, and watered it with their sweat. Let all who pass this way, tread lightly and speak softly. You stand on hallowed ground. But our veneration must not keep us from managing this Institution in a business way. This is a utilitarian age; a day when the inquiry is made, "Does it pay?" St. John's College, under the present system of management, does not. It has become a burthen upon the Lodges, and yields them but little, or nothing, in return. A change must be made.

Is it indeed true, as Bro. Josiah H. Drummond, of Maine, declares, when speaking regretfully of the impending disaster to this well intended but futile effort at associate Masonic benevolence, that, "The fundamental principle of Masonic charity and benevolence is *individual obligation*. All measures, tending to change this obligation from the *individual* to an *association*, are really subversive, in a greater or less degree, of the ancient plan of Masonry; which never contemplated that the invidual brother can relieve himself from his obligations by substituting relief by an association, to whose funds he should contribute"? or is it not rather true that, while Masonry is comprehensive and pervasive enough in its principles to enforce "individual obligations" and to promote all legitimate ends aimed at in associate charities, yet our hearts are not warmed with the zeal needed to sustain and perpetuate efforts to secure the strength which abides in union? However the principle, thus suggestively hinted at, may be decided in future Masonic Councils, *certes* our Brethren of Arkansas have realized and declared *their* present inability to sustain a well devised and noble Masonic educational institution. St. John's College may as well be numbered at once among the many associations of the past, whose record of enterprise, struggle and failure are evidences either of misdirected or inefficient effort. For ourselves, we prefer to attribute all such failures to a lack of masonic zeal in the craft, rather than to any defect in the designs laid down upon our trestleboards of principle. The Grand Master gives a favorable report of the condition

of Masonry in his jurisdiction and we quote a portion of his concluding remarks, as follows:

We have tried to do our duty faithfully and impartially, and trust our work will stand approved. While, perhaps, we have been unable to add any lustre to the high station, we hope we have detracted nothing from the dignity of the position. Our earnest desire, and our labor has been directed to that end, to raise the moral standard of the Institution high in our State. We have visited quite a number of Lodges, but not as many as we had hoped for. Wherever we went, we found the Lodges looking up, and occupying an elevated plain, and may the Grand Master, who forever reigns, forever presides, prosper them evermore. Brethren, in surrendering to you the trust you committed to me one year ago, and in laying down the gavel, I must thank you for your confidence then exhibited, and I trust you have never felt a regret for your choice. I now wish the trust placed in other hands. I want to lay aside the jewel, and place the gavel in another's keeping. All I ask from you, is, that I may live in your affections, and that my name may be kindly remembered.

The proceedings of the Grand Lodge were harmonious and characterized by intelligence and discrimination, and we refer to the following as worthy of special notice, viz: Five charters and two dispensations granted; three dispensations continued and one revoked. The pending amendment to the constitution, substituting a committee on work (to consist of five experts *ala* Alabama), was adopted; as was also an amendment changing the time of holding its annual communications to the second Tuesday of January (instead of October). After some discussion over conflicting reports of the Committee on Recognition of the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory, the majority report favoring recognition, was adopted, and Bro. E. H. English, P. G. M., was received as the representative of the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory, with grand honors, etc. At the recommendation of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence a resolution, recognizing the Grand Lodge of Cuba, was adopted. We can not, at this writing, approve that act as fully warranted by the facts elicited in our investigation of the controversy between "Cuba" and Colon.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

This report is presented by Bro. Geo. E. Dodge, Chairman, and reviews, with judgment and pleasant directness of criticism, the reports of some thirty-seven Grand Lodges. He refers to the 56th Grand Annual Communication of Alabama (1876), giving just praise and prominence to the address of Grand Master Pillans; and, after quoting approvingly his truthful portrayal of the "evils of multiplying the number of weak lodges," says: "The Grand Master was re-elected, and we doubt if the

Grand Lodge could have bettered itself by a different selection." We thank Bro. Dodge for a kind notice of our report on correspondence for 1876, and assure him, of what we hope he is already informed, that Arkansas was regretfully omitted in that report because the proceedings did not reach us. There is a strange confusion of ideas palpable to us in conning the *direct* and forcible remarks of Bro. D. as contrasted with the "sound of his name," and still the wonder grows, how such a misnomer could have attached to one so unlike to a *dodge*. But, "what's in a name"?

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Jno. F. Hill.....Grand Master
R. W. L. E. Barber.....Grand Secretary

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... 337

CALIFORNIA.

This Grand Lodge commenced its Twenty-eighth (28th) Grand Annual Communication on Tuesday, the 9th of October, A. D. 1877, closing Saturday P. M. of same week. The volume before us reporting the proceedings of this Communication contains nearly four hundred pages of closely printed matter abounding in Masonic gems and statistical information.

The Grand Master's address (Bro. Jno. Mills Browne) is very able and comprehensive, and as it is impossible for us to condense a satisfactory *resume* of the full proceedings, we shall extract from this address such paragraphs as indicate the condition, action and purposes of our Brethren of California. The Grand Master thus associates the aroma of good wine with the savor of good deeds:

"BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE OF CALIFORNIA—

In Normandy, so runs the legend, some hundreds of years ago, a mighty lord had called together his retainers and set them to work in building a castle. While thus employed an excessive drought prevailed over the land, and the scarcity of water with which to mix the mortar put a stop to the work on the building. The mighty lord had vaults well filled with wine, and in order that the work might go on and the workmen be relieved from the distress succeeding its cessation, he ordered the vaults to be opened and the wine to be brought forth and used in place of water to prepare the mortar. The work continued, the castle was completed and became the wonder and pride of the province, and for centu-

ries afterward, the winds, in passing over the castle, became laden with the fragrance of the old wine used in its building, and was wafted through the valleys and over the plains like unto the incense of a breeze that wanders among sweet scented plants, and was conveyed to the people who partook of the fragrance which unceasingly told of its origin in the olden time, of its undiminished strength and perpetuity, and evoked reverential emotions and called forth grateful recognitions of the power and goodness of the mighty lord who, in his wisdom and consideration, had thus favored a people.

Masonry is our castle, and the realization of its lofty and ennobling principles is the wine used to cement the unity of brotherhood, the fragrance of which is the grand though unseen influence which has ever elevated and refined communities, and been acknowledged and fostered by the recipients of its blessings.

To our present assemblage there comes the recollection of the events and associations which characterized those in which we have participated, and their beneficial influences will silently though surely affect our views and actions. To us comes the remembrance of the words and deeds of those who were our predecessors in these annual assemblies, and to us comes the inheritance of example and result derived from an unbroken succession of Masonic ancestry. With receptive minds these combined influences will have the appreciation and elicit consequents as satisfactory as those which came to the admiring, wondering people who inhaled the fragrance of the nobleman's wine, which, although ripened by time, ever gave forth the pleasing flavor of its original richness."

He thus alludes to the condition of the craft, and suggests the labors incident to the communication :

"We, representatives of the noblest sentiments, have come hither from our various vocations, to meet again in convocation, not impelled by "a brief flash of energy," but with definite motives, and a foreshadowed intention to completely perform our duty, to exchange fraternal greetings, to give and receive opinions, to labor and fulfill claims; and this we do with an assurance of the healthy condition of the Craft, and in the knowledge that comparative peace and harmony prevail throughout the jurisdiction. Let us have faith in the boundless wisdom of God; let us realize the great law of duty toward Him; let us strive to learn, to think, to do, to bear; and thus, in fervency and earnestness, gratefully recognize His loving kindness in permitting this assemblage, and humbly invoke His guidance that its important duties may be acceptably done.

We regret the absence of familiar faces, yet we welcome the new ones as an earnest that they will adequately supply the places we were so accustomed to see filled by others, and we trust they will be guided by the approved labors and recognized zeal of those whom they have succeeded, in attending to the interests of their respective charges, and in uniting in the wish and endeavor to promote the common weal. Let it be remembered that, by virtue of your offices, awarded by the elective favor of your brethren, you are, in a certain sense, to be regarded as exemplars of that which is just, true, and good in your moral, social, and political life. Human motives are distorted and discolored, and usually misconstrued by the uncharitable, who are prone to ascribe sinister and selfish reasons,

and find defects and abuses; and the only complete and direct denial is to be had in a life whose actions are noble, pure, and earnest."

He has evidently devoted himself with remarkable faithfulness to the supervision of the craft, having during his term of office, one year, "visted twenty-seven of the thirty-one districts in the jurisdiction," and says of these visits (a portion of which we italicise):

"The Craft were fraternal and kind in manner, earnest and interested, and expressive of gratification at having been present to witness the exemplification of the authorized work. I have to acknowledge the kindest consideration, respect, and courtesy which attended my reception; and, in some instances, the warm impulses of a generous nature made my position embarrassing by the prodigal hospitality bestowed. I now officially recognize the kindnesses received, the recollection of which will be carried into the future as associations among the happiest of my Masonic career.

In investigating the causes which disturb, perplex, and embarrass Lodges in their financial and working condition, retarding growth, impairing influence, injuring reputation, and making them what they ought not to be, in striking contrast to what they might and should be, I found a lack of attendance at Lodge labors, careless introduction of new material, persistent abuse and indiscriminate use of the black-ball, a reluctant, tardy, or non-payment of dues, inexcusable carelessness, and an illiberal and unmasonic treatment of the applications for affiliation from non-affiliates."

Of Commercial obligations and Masonic pledges, he says:

"My opinion was asked by a Master as to the propriety of entertaining charges against a brother who had purchased goods from another brother, and subsequently, although in the possession of funds, left the country without paying for the articles bought.

I replied that if no fraud had been practiced the charge should not be considered, the admissibility depending upon the fraudulent character of the transaction; that the non-payment of a debt incurred without fraudulent intent is not sufficient ground on which to base a charge of unmasonic conduct. Two cases have been brought to my notice this season where members of Lodges who had sold a bill of goods to other members, and failed to receive payment therefor, considered that the Lodges should assume the debts, since the goods were sold on credit to the purchasing parties because they had been in the Lodge together; which was regarded as an indorsement to integrity, but being deceived, asked that the Lodges should make good to them their business mistakes. This error concerning Masonry is by no means entertained only by a few, singular though it may seem. By many the institution is regarded as a convenient means whereby the creditor can force payment from his debtor, awarding to it the character of a collector, and moreover a general insurance against the mistakes of trade. A Masonic court cannot take the place of, or conflict with, a civil court; it does not establish civil rights, and its highest penalty is expulsion; it is content to give judgment on matters relating to its own affairs and offenses against the laws of morality, but it does not recognize difficulties of a legal character arising from business transactions, nor does it entertain charges for the purpose of adjusting legal rights, unless such charges shall specify fraud. The Lodge is not the place to ad-

judicate accounts of commercial transactions, and charges partake too much of a criminal proceeding to be entertained in the settlement of business difficulties. A like matter ought never to be brought before the Lodge; it is not in order; the complaining party should be told that the court room is the proper place to institute lawsuits—and so I advised the Masters.

This leads to the notice of another error committed by Masons, an error of prevalence, that of frequently giving and receiving the word or pledge of a Mason in an useless and an unnecessary manner and on occasions of little or no importance. The word of a Mason ought to be equal to his bond, and called forth only in matters of import; it should never be given without deliberation, and when given should be steadfastly kept, for a thoughtless pledge heedlessly broken is without reason, unfortunate and foolish, and deserves censure.

The habit too many have of ostentatiously giving a sign or a grip in mixed social associations, publicly boasting of being a Mason, doing all things "on the square," and wearing conspicuous emblems, when without the information necessary to give an intelligent interpretation of their meaning, should be discouraged in manner and terms indicative of displeasure, and a continued effort made for the correction of these unhappy faults which are calculated to bring reproach upon the Fraternity and lessen its influence for the accomplishment of good.

Masonic pledges are sometimes given in political matters, and, whether broken or not, should be equally frowned upon as subversive of propriety and displaying an ignorance of the purpose of Masonry. Living by a law unto itself, espousing no party, sect, nor creed, seeking no outward favors or patronage, independent of foreign power, and laboring for common good, Masonry was not created, nor is it kept up, for political or pecuniary purposes. The sooner brethren become aware that Masonry is incompatible with politics and business operations the better; the sooner they manifest their displeasure at this inharmonious mixture the better; the sooner they stop the reckless pledging of Masonic faith and "communicating on the square" the better; for until this be done we shall have this foolish yet hurtful inconsistency, and suffer within and without from its demoralizing tendency. These things, it seems to me, are not enough considered among us, and for their avoidance it is hardly necessary to legislate, as the best and most effectual remedy is to be found in the discouragement, displeasure, and reproof displayed by the brethren."

The R. W. Grand Secretary's report is in his usual comprehensive style, and we quote from it two brief paragraphs, as follows:

1st, that:

"There are now in existence within this jurisdiction one hundred and ninety-nine chartered Lodges, which with the four under dispensation, make a total number of two hundred and three."

2d, that:

"As heretofore, for many years, the undersigned is enabled to report that, for the fiscal year just reported, the returns from all the Lodges had been received and that their dues had all been paid. He has little to complain of for the present year; for, although a good deal of correspondence has been necessary to have the reports properly corrected (as has been

not unusual), there has been perhaps a greater promptitude than heretofore in the transmission of returns and the payment of dues, and, save Maui Lodge, No. 233, which has sent no report nor dues, there is but one which yet requires correction and the payment of some small balance consequent thereupon."

THE GRAND ORATOR.

Bro. Aaron A. Sargent having been called away by the extra session of Congress, to attend to his official duties as Senator of the United States, Bro. Charles A. Wiggin, D. G. M., read the address prepared by Bro. Sargent. The address is an eloquent and very useful contribution to Masonic literature, and concludes with the following pleasant and suggestive words:

I have thus briefly glanced at a few causes of the vigorous youth and luxurious manhood of Masonry. Undoubtedly there are many others which will suggest themselves to a diligent student of its history and philosophy, and which are worthy of careful study. Whatever those causes, the effect has been stupendous. Wherever the sun, in his steady march from clime to clime, looks down upon a civilized race, there our powerful institution has been planted—there are the memorials of the beauty and usefulness of Masonry. Beyond the range of civilization, in the remotest Arctic regions at that time attained by man, our eminent Bro. Kane planted the symbols of the Craft. He tells us that on the highest land, not only of America but of the globe, he set up the flag which Wilkes had carried into the Antartic seas, and which had been preserved as a relic, "floating from a black cliff over the dark rock-shadowed waters which rolled up and broke in white caps at its base. Side by side with this were our Masonic emblems of the compass and the square." In the new continent at the antipodes, lately tenanted by the wildest race of men and abounding in the strangest productions of nature—where, during scarcely more than the space of a generation, populous communities have subdued the wilderness and adorned it with all the embellishments of civilized life—our pervading Order has erected its temples. Wherever the Mason travels into foreign countries he may work and receive master's wages. The beneficent genius of our institution attends his steps, furnishes companionship and cheer, alleviates his misfortunes, relieves his wants, and illustrates the brotherhood of man.

Here, to-day, in this beautiful temple of Masonry, in the heart of this city which thirty years ago did not exist, surrounded by thousands of the Craft who are busy with their industries as you legislate upon their Masonic interests—here, in the metropolis of a Pacific empire whose growing power gives promise of majestic destiny—citizens of a free land where intelligence, virtue, and happiness are every one's birthright—you may rise above the slavery of prejudice into the liberty of humanity, and mould our institution into the proportions of the skies which grandly overhang us, pure as the health-giving breezes which fan us, grand as our mountains that lift their snow-crowned summits into the upper light, and eternal as the stars which keep holy vigil through the ages.

They had a great "clam-bake" celebration at "old Saucelito" on the 10th of October, 1877, and the account given thereof in these proceedings is as full of wit, humor and mirth as—well, as an egg is of meat, say. We know little, in these Southern realms, of the true inwardness of a clam-bake, having no bivalves of the sort within our reach, but we suppose roasted oysters or a fish chowder might possibly answer as a far, far off imitation of the clam (orous) original, if only the usual surroundings and "set-offs"—such, for instance, as wine sauce and wit salad—are duly and copiously provided. We observe in all reports of such important re-unions that

"Sparkling wit doth brighter shine,
When 'tis begot by sparkling wine."

We would like the best in the world to *try on* a clam-bake—will nobody invite us to one?

The report on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of Bro. William H. Hill, and bears the impress of his genius and research. He reviews with ability the proceedings of fifty-two Grand Lodges, among which Alabama for 1876 receives appropriate and fraternal notice, alluding with special commendation, and quoting freely therefrom, to Grand Master Pillans' annual address of that year.

He raps the writer "over the knuckles" for needless apologies, etc. Pray excuse us, for we had a hard lesson, and went into school fearing we would miss a word or so, and then be scored a demerit mark, affecting not so much the writer as the Grand Lodge he represents.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. John Mills Browne (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Alexander G. Abell (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

COLORADO.

The seventeenth grand annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Colorado was held at Denver, commencing September 18th, and closing Wednesday 19th, P. M., of same month, A. D. 1877.

Bro. Harper M. Orahood, M. W. G. M., presided, there being present the representatives of twenty-one (of total of twenty-two) Lodges, together with several past Grand Officers, Grand Representatives, and a large number of visiting brethren, among whom were R. W. Albert G. Mackey, P. G. M. of South Carolina, and R. W. George E. Lounsbury, P. G. M. of Illinois.

The Grand Master's annual address is a concise and well-arranged mes-

sage, rehearsing the Masonic events of the year and suggesting the business demands of the occasion. His decisions are not numerous, and relate to subjects mainly of local interest.

GRAND ORATOR.

Bro. Byron L. Carr delivered a very eloquent and suggestive address touching upon some matters which we think (differing in this from his conclusions) quite important to a proper understanding of the truth as taught in Masonry.

He says, for instance, of the antiquities, so to speak, that:

"Speculate as we may, the fact exists that the real source of that great Masonic light in whose beams we are now basking, and which has penetrated and is penetrating into the remotest regions of the earth, is as absolutely unknown to us to-day, by reason of the darkness of the countless ages down through which it has descended, as is the nature of those distant orbs of light which shed their silvery beams upon our physical vision through the immeasurable distances of space. And we are forced to the conclusion, whether willingly or otherwise, that the solid foundation of the structure of Freemasonry is buried so deep beneath the *debris* of fallen temples and the accumulated dust of ages as to have rendered it hitherto an impossible, an altogether impracticable and an absolutely useless and unnecessary task to dig away the rubish in order to ascertain the exact character of the rock on which it stands, or in order to discover what deposits, if any, have been made by the Master Workman within its corner-stone.

"And of what material benefit would it be to the Craft were all these questions settled?

"Of what consequence is it to us to know whether we are descended from the Roman Colleges of Constructors, instituted by Numa Pompilius twenty-six centuries ago, or from the guilds of workingmen of Gaul or Britain? Or suppose we could extend our gaze into the remoter shadows of the past and demonstrate that the rites and ceremonies of the Lodge are descended to us from the Greek or Hebrew, or Egyptian, or Syrian, or Hindoo mysteries?"

This is said, too, after the following eloquent allusion to Egyptian legends illustrative of Masonic Rites, etc. The "magnificent temple" referred to is none other than the great Pyramid of Cheops, a grand monument of Masonic architectural skill, illustrating externally their astronomical attainments, and thus aiding the worship of the Sun God, which to the builders was only symbolical of the grand central, spiritual sun, the true God, known and worshiped then only by these master builders.

These inner mysteries of the great book of the Pyramids are now yielding up their treasures of long-buried knowledge to the diligent student and proving alike the antiquity and Divine inspiration of Masonry. The legend, reproduced below, from Bro. Carr's oration is but a feeble para-

phrase of the true records of the inner Pyramids. It is beautiful, however, and suggestive, viz:

"One of these legends, which has descended to us in classical literature, will serve as an illustration: Osiris was the mythical deity of the Egyptians, who had control of the seasons, and of the annual inundation of the Nile. He descended to the earth and taught the people the use of agricultural implements. He seems to have made himself immensely popular with the dwellers on the Nile; so much so, that one of his brothers becoming jealous of his popularity, concluded to put him out of the way. He caused a magnificent box to be constructed exactly of the size of Osiris, and offered to give it as a present to any one who could get into it. Osiris tried and was immediately fastened in, and the box thrown into the Nile. The box floated down the stream and was caught among the reeds growing on the bank. The reed grew into a tree of enormous dimensions and enclosed the body. *This was the first resurrection.* The tree was felled and placed as a column in the palace of the king. Isis, the faithful wife of Osiris, "*after many days spent in fruitless search,*" discovered the body, removed it from the palace, and buried it in a forest. *This was the second burial.* Typhon, the murderer, discovered the body in its concealment and cut it into fragments, which he scattered to the four corners of the earth. After a long and weary search, the fragments were again brought together and buried in the great burial place of the nation. *This was the third burial,* and the legend informs us that "there was erected to his memory" a magnificent temple, to which pilgrimages were afterward made from all parts of the country."

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is presented by Bro. D. C. Collier for the committee. He reviews the proceedings of forty-two Grand Lodges, including those of Alabama for 1876 (56th annual) which have due and fraternal consideration.

One of the marked characteristics of this report is the admirable *resume* of the controversy on COLORED MASONRY, and another chapter reviewing the progress of charitable enterprises, under the head of WIDOWS AND ORPHANS HOMES, is alike interesting and useful.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Cornelius J. Heart.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Ed. C. Parmelee (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

CONNECTICUT.

We have the proceedings of the ninetieth grand annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut, held in the city of Hartford, commencing January 16th and closing January 17th 1878.

The excellent annual address of M. W. Grand Master Edward B. Rowe gives us the key to the business of the session, as well as all needed in-

sight into the condition of the Craft in that jurisdiction. We confess our *penchant* for these old Grand Bodies of the land of steady habits, where long ago our forefathers toiled and suffered against obstacles interposed by physical, climatic, and mortal (savage) foes, to establish "liberty, equality and fraternity" in those (then) western wilds. Masonry, we know, was then, in conjunction with religion, the co-operative power in sustaining their courage, overcoming their doubts, and adding zeal and organizing wisdom to the apparently feeble efforts of these refugee adventurers in preparing the way for the march of civilization and freedom westward. Masonry is still, now as ever, the nursing "mother of States and statesmen," and true masonry still survives and prospers in Connecticut, one of its original nurseries on the American continent.

The Grand Master congratulates his brethren on the continued cordial and fraternal relations of their Grand Lodge with sister Grand Lodges, and says of their own jurisdiction:

> The utmost harmony prevails, and we are well assured that much has been accomplished toward correcting the irregularities that existed, and our Lodges brought to a degree of efficiency rarely ever before attained.

Of foreign relations he speaks deprecatingly, especially in reference to the "German Grand Lodge League," in disregarding the American doctrine of Grand Lodge (territorial) sovereignty, and says in reference to this cause of offense:

> I recommend that this Grand Lodge present to our brethren of the German Grand Lodge League, through our representative at Dresden, Brother John Anketell, their solemn, but fraternal protest concerning this action, for it is not difficult to see where such doctrine will lead.

He alludes feelingly to the death of Past Grand Master George F. Daskam of that jurisdiction, who died at Norwalk, December 28, 1877.

He also speaks in appropriate and feeling words of those deaths in other jurisdictions which have caused the great heart of Masonry to throb with anguish over the loss of some of her brightest and best, and names among our fallen worthies R W. Bro. John A. Harris, late Grand Secretary of New Hampshire, R. W. Bro. John Dove, late Grand Secretary of Virginia, and R. W. Bro. George Frank Gouley, late Grand Secretary of Missouri.

His official acts, including DISPENSATIONS, INSTITUTIONS, VISITATIONS, ect., are mentioned in business routine and briefly; yet we know, in spite of these brief allusions, that a busy year was his. He reminds the Grand Lodge of their duty to the VETERAN'S ASSOCIATION and to their MASONIC CHARITY FOUNDATION FUND, and we gladly note a healthy increase in this useful fund.

The Grand Master, to aid him in visitations, etc., appointed competent

proxies in each county, and we note that a clause was added to the constitution authorizing the annual appointment of such auxiliaries.

Number of chartered Lodges 119, with 1 U. D:

The report on Foreign Correspondence, made by R. W. Bro. Joseph E. Wheeler, Grand Secretary, is able and interesting. His review of Alabama for 1876 (56th annual), is full and very acceptably complimentary in its allusions to Grand Master Pillan's annual address, as well as to the report of worthy Bro. Titcomb, Chairman of our Committee on Appeals, etc. Of this report, Bro. Wheeler speaks with truth, as follows (and we give his comment, as well as reproduce the "conclusion" alluded to):

The conclusion of the report of the Committee on Appeals, etc., we take the liberty of quoting here, because it is so true, and so beautifully expressed, we know our readers will appreciate it:

In conclusion, your committee asks permission to observe that there is daily, hourly necessity for us, as Masons, "to put a bridle on the tongue." A careless remark may at times do incalculable mischief. A single word spoken, at some particular juncture, may blast reputation as the fire of the Heavens scorches the majestic tree and dries up its fountain of life. To appreciate the importance of circumspection in respect of our intercourse with each other and with profanes, let us keep in mind the fact that human influence is well nigh measureless. A casual remark is often like the pebble tossed upon the water in repose; the tiny circlets of wave expand and widen, and spread, and continue to extend until, in the distance, they are lost to view.

The "SPECIAL REPORT," following his regular review, in which Brother Wheeler treats of the Grand Orient of France, and the claims of the two Cuban Grand Bodies seeking recognition, meets our cordial approval as well as constitutes a very important and creditable portion of his deliverance on Foreign correspondence. He, of course, rebukes with proper masonic censure, the bold defiance of universal Masonry by the Grand Orient of France in eliminating the God idea from her constitution, and his views on the subject are well and judiciously expressed.

He also reasons well on the Cuban embroglio, and agrees with such "slow coaches" as the writer, and other old fashioned people, that the Cubans ought to reconcile their own quarrel, and not transfer it to our peaceful borders.

In reference to the new GRAND LODGES, he recommends the recognition of New Mexico, Dakota, and Prince Edward's Island.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Dwight Phelps.. .....Grand Master
R. W. Bro. Joseph K. Wheeler (re-elected)..... .....Grand Secretary

DAKOTA.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Dakota held its third annual communication, in the city of Yankton, commencing Tuesday, June 12th, 1877; M. W. Grand Master H. H. Blair in the Grand East.

We reviewed the proceedings of the first annual communication in our report of 1876. The report of the second Anniversary failed to reach us, and we are now reminded by the reception of this third annual report, of our failure to recommend to the Grand Lodge of Alabama the formal and full recognition of this new and worthy sister of Dakota. Perhaps, and very likely, for it is our habit to recommend recognition rather on the second than first reports, the failure of the second report caused the neglect, to recommend recognition, alluded to. Dakota is certainly entitled to recognition in due and ample form, and will receive such due courtesy from our Grand Lodge as soon as the subject is formally presented to that Body.

The proceedings now under review, including a very creditable annual address from Grand Master H. H. Blair, relate alone to the ordinary doings of the craft in building, improving and enlarging their new Hive.

We see indications of zeal and thrift among the Brethren of Dakota, which give an assurance of their future success and usefulness, and we with pleasure bid them "God speed."

There are six Lodges under the jurisdiction of Dakota, the number remaining unchanged from their original roll.

DELAWARE.

The seventy-first grand annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Delaware convened in the city of Wilmington on the 3d and continued its labors through the 4th day of October, A. D. 1877. M. W. Grand Master Thos. N. Williams presided, and there were present numerous permanent members and the representatives of a constitutional number of subordinate Lodges.

The business of the session was disposed of with commendable dispatch, and yet with due regard to thoroughness; no question, however, of unusual importance appears to have obtruded itself upon their deliberations, save only the one involving the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania over rejected material of Delaware Lodges, which was promptly adjusted by the truly wise and masonic decision of the Grand Master of Pennsylvania, in response to the complaint of Delaware, in the matter of one Jno. M. Dunn, rejected in Wilmington, Delaware, but accepted and made a mason in Palestine Lodge No. 470, of Philadelphia. Grand Master

Clark of Pennsylvania, decided, in this case, "that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania will not allow any one rejected in another jurisdiction to be made a mason in this jurisdiction, until that rejection has been removed;" and Jno. M. Dunn was accordingly deprived of the Masonic rights, fraudulently acquired in Philadelphia, and remanded to the custody and jurisdiction of Delaware.

Grand Master Williams, in his annual address, urges strict adherence to the ancient *landmarks*, and to secure a uniformity of work advises the appointment of *custodians*, or a Grand Lecturer, to examine the work and instruct the craft.

He closes his well considered, but brief address, as follows:

The legacy we have inherited has come down to us from a generation of good and true men. The question with us is: shall we prove ourselves worthy this great and important trust, and shall we as executors of this valuable patrimony prove unworthy of the confidence of our *fathers in Masonry*, and recklessly permit its wealth of honor to be frittered away because of our *idleness* and *unworthiness*; or shall we, by putting on the whole armor of a true Philanthropy, and investing ourselves in the panoply of *strong faith* in the truth of those principles which underlie and form the ground work of active Masonry, rise equal to the demand of the times, and carry onward with renewed zeal and energy, the work committed to us, that we in turn may transmit it *untarnished*, *improved* and *perfected* to those who shall come after us. If this we would do, we must consecrate ourselves and our best efforts to the cause we have espoused, and looking forward strive for the success which can be secured only by indomitable zeal and unfaltering devotion to the performance of the *sacred duties imposed upon us.*

We note in the proceedings the acceptance of the commission of the Grand Representative of the GRAND LODGE OF CUBA, and also the recognition of the Grand Lodge of NEW MEXICO.

Past Grand Master, Geo. W. Chaytor, Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence, we regret to note, was absent, and the following resolutions intimate a serious cause for that absence, as well as assure him of the continued well deserved respect and affection of his brethren, viz:

Resolved, That we sincerely regret the absence of our venerable and highly esteemed Past Grand Master, George W. Chaytor, from the floor of the Grand Lodge, as he has been a regular attender for so many years, and took such an active part in the business of the Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That a committee of three Past Grand Masters be appointed to convey to Bro. P. G. M. Chaytor, our sympathy and regret at his absence.

No general report on Foreign correspondence. There appear to be 22 Lodges under the jurisdiction of Delaware.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Thos. N. Williams (re-elected) ....Grand Master.
R. W. William S. Hays (re-elected)..... ...Grand Secretary.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The Sixty-seventh Annual Report gives us the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia at its annual communication held at Washington, D. C., Nov. 14th, A. D. 1877, and also of its semi-annual held May 9th, and a special communication held May 31st, 1877.

Each of these communications were presided over by M. W. Grand Master E. G. Davis.

His annual address gives us assurance of the prosperity of the craft in that jurisdiction, and he says of the years' experiences:

"The year just passed has been marked with the usual peace and harmony among the craft that has so long existed in this jurisdiction. Death has entered few of our homes, as the almost unbroken ranks of our Grand Lodge bear testimony The places of Bro. Craven Ashford, Past Senior Grand Warden of this Grand Lodge, and Bro. J. B. Cramer, P. M. of Acacia Lodge, are indeed vacant. They have fought the good fight, and have now passed into that higher life, where those who wait on the Divine Master find peace, joy and eternal bliss.

While I have been occasionally called on by the officers of Lodges for advice and instruction, I have no decisions to report, no important Masonic questions having been presented for my official action during the year, my duties have been only advisory. This highly gratifying state of affairs is doubtless due, in a great measure, to the intelligence and capability of the brethren selected to preside over and govern the Lodges, and not only reflects credit upon them, but develops the existence of that harmony and good feeling among the brethren so essential to the prosperity and well being of the fraternity.

I have granted but few dispensations, being averse to the exercise of that power by the Grand Master, except in extreme and exceptional cases."

He cautions against carelessness of committees entrusted with the solemn duty of testing the material offered for inspection and admission and gives a case of, apparently, wilful disregard of signals cautioning against an unworthy applicant.

He is troubled as we are with traveling imposters demanding wages not their dues, and recommends an organization by which charity can be dispensed "through one channel say a board of relief," and says:

"I therefore suggest that the following or some more feasible plan be taken into immediate consideration by the Lodges. Let each Lodge make appropriations quarterly according to membership, and create a common charity fund, said fund to be dispensed by a committee or Board of Relief

appointed by the Lodges, or if preferable by the Grand Lodge. Said Committee or Board of Relief to be invested with authority to investigate charity cases, and if found worthy to relieve the same. By the adoption of some such system, a large portion of the money now expended on unworthy persons could be saved to the Lodges, and a greater amount of good accomplished."

Would that the desired reformation could be attained by the means he proposes, but alas! experience has taught us that imposters as readily hoodwink the one as the many dispensers of charity.

As to the character and wording of laws he makes the following pertinent and useful suggestions, viz:

"In making laws for the government of the fraternity, one of the first and most important objects to be attained is clearness, so that in interpreting the same nothing can be left to conjecture or liable to two constructions; that the language should be so clear and plain that the ideas of the framers of the constitution cannot be misunderstood."

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Bro. W. R. Singleton's report on correspondence is very readable and interesting, notwithstanding its brevity forced by an order of the Grand Lodge, to be restricted to "an average of one page to each Grand Body." We thank him for a favorable notice of Alabama for 1876 (56th Annual Report), exceeding somewhat the one page limit.

There are 21 Lodges under this jurisdiction.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. E. G. Davis (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. W. R. Singleton (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

FLORIDA.

We are favored with acceptable returns from Florida in the report giving the proceedings of her forty-ninth grand annual communication held at Jacksonville, on Tuesday the 8th day of January, A. D. 1878.

There were present, besides Grand and Past Grand Officers, the representatives of fifty-three of the eighty-two (as we make the total number of Lodges under the jurisdiction of Florida,) subordinate Lodges entitled to representation.

The business appears to have involved no questions of general interest, and its quick dispatch in harmony and good fellowship, enabled the Grand Lodge to close its labors on the 10th of January. The addresses

and reports of Grand Officers are quite notable features of the proceedings.

We quote from the long and eloquent annual address of M. W. Grand Master Enos Wasgate, the following true and well expressed sentiments, viz:

"We live in an age when there is noble meaning in, and a wise reading of Tennyson's lines:

> "Howe'er it be, it seems to me
> 'Tis only noble to be good;
> Kind hearts are more than coronets,
> And simple faith than Norman blood."

The number of acres in a manor, the titles and arms of heraldry, the battle flags won in martial array, no longer express the value of a man.

What is he worth in elevated mind, in generous heart, in philanthropic deeds? is the great, true question among the best men in the age we live in. The grandeur of a nation in the nineteenth century can only be fitly and fairly estimated from a census of the intelligence and virtue of the citizens who compose it. It is upon the personal character of our individual members that our institution is based. Upon no other foundation can we build, and from no other source can we draw influence and strength. This personal character is the aggregated sums of our daily lives, to be secured neither by the aid of associates nor by the wealth and services of indulgent friends. Each kindly word and charitable deed strengthens and beautifies it. Every harsh expression and ignoble act weakens and debases it. Little by little, it is builded up, until at length the superstructure of our lives stands out before the world to be admired and copied for the harmony and beauty exhibited in its lines, or to be contemned and avoided for its course and unsymmetric presence. Then, with a due realization and appreciation of the deepening responsibilities laid upon us day by day, let us each pledge this and our coming years as years of fealty to the principles upon which this institution is founded—of earnest adherence and support to the progressive and ameliorating agencies of our time—of uncompromising and aggressive warfare upon the strongholds of ignorance and vice—of sincere and steadfast attachment to the cause of knowledge and virtue, and of unfaltering and devoted service in the Master's cause. Thus living, we shall discover true happiness, and when our last anticipation shall have been consummated, with our pilgrimage concluded, it may be said of us, 'well done.'"

The—

ORATION

Of W. Bro. Chas. A. Fulwood, Grand Orator, on "THE RELATIONS of FREEMASONRY TO REVEALED RELIGION" is equally instructive in matter as captivating in style, and well calculated to interest and benefit the CRAFT.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Bro. D. C. Dawkins, Chairman, made a general report on correspon-

dence declining to enter upon the task of reviewing specific Grand Lodge Reports and confining himself to some general, and by the way very earnest and appropriately expressed sentiments, remarks on the beauties and progress of Masonry.

We observe that our good Brother Dawkins has escaped the Cuban fever of hasty recognition, and recommends to his Lodge the following response to the applicants from that favored Isle, viz:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge, recognizing the Masonic legitimacy of Masonry in the Island of Cuba, but feeling unwilling to sit in judgment and decide at present for ourselves upon the question as to whether the Grand Lodge of Colon, or the Grand Lodge of Cuba, should be recognized as the only foreign and exclusive power there, in symbolic Masonry, we deem it expedient to remain neutral, and the brethren of our Grand Jurisdiction on visiting said Island are hereby left to their own sound discretion as to their Masonic Associations.

A very sensible conclusion we think.

GEORGIA.

Our Brethren of Georgia assembled their ninety-first (91st) independent Grand Lodge (she was provincial as far back as 1733, but in 1787 assumed her position as an independent American G. L.) at Macon on the 10th day of October, A. D. 1877.

The Grand Annual Communication then assembled was presided over by M. W. Grand Master David E. Butler--238 constituent Lodges represented, with a large attendance of Past Grand Officers, Grand Representatives and visiting Brethren.

The Grand Master's annual address is a good and useful executive message, practical and pointed in all its suggestions.

He says:

"Our circumstances and surroundings furnish sufficient grounds for strong hopes of good to the Fraternity in time to come: order reigns in nearly every section of this jurisdiction. Our God has given the showers of rain, and in much the larger portion of the State vouchsafed to our brethren and their families good health, for which and other manifold blessings of life let us all devoutly give thanks, to the God of Israel, whose servants we are.

He reports no OFFICIAL DECISIONS, having settled during the year many questions, "but not one of them all involved a new point or presented an unsettled principle."

He rebukes defaulting Lodges, and recommends the Grand Lodge to "apply its discipline to all Lodges in arrears for dues; and to those also who elect incompetent officers and do not enforce the laws of Masonry against the vices of drunkenness, profanity and dishonesty." He assures us of the

fact that in one Masonic Grand Jurisdiction, at least, the effort to sustain a Masonic educational institution has *not* failed, and says of the

SOUTHERN MASONIC FEMALE COLLEGE

That it—

"Yet lives, and will live to accomplish much more, if judicious councils shall guide its interest for the time to come. These years of service in its behalf is to me, a source of joy, and the more is it a pleasure to me because the work was done willingly, without fee or reward and at my own expense. I have done what I could and some good has been the result. I commend the College to your better judgment and more cordial support. This Grand Lodge, at a small expense, can make it an honor to the Fraternity and a fountain of learning for hundreds of our daughters. It is now existing and going on, in spite of your coldness and indifference. What might it not be with your hearty, warm and generous fostering care?"

He recommends the renewal of the Reports on Foreign Correspondence discontinued some years ago. (Very good we think.)

He urges prompt provision for their matured and soon to mature bonded debt—some $29,000 00 in all—recommends economy in expenditures, an increase of Lodge contributions, etc., in all of which we think the Grand Lodge promptly concurred.

The Committee on Grievances were kept busy, having to digest decide, and report upon thirty-three cases of complaint.

The return by Arcana Lodge, No. 60, New Jersey, of a warrant issued by the Grand Lodge of Georgia to the Fourteenth Regiment of Georgia Volunteers, empowering them, under the name of Stonewall Jackson Military Lodge, No. 13, to organize and hold an army lodge, suggested a pleasant episode for the closing work of this communication. The warrant was captured by a drummer of Company G, Fourth Regiment of New Jersey Volunteers, 2d April, 1865, at Petersburg, Va., and given by him to First Lieutenant Jacob L. Hutt, of Company C, same regiment, who being a member of the Craft entrusted it to Arcana Lodge for preservation and restoration to its owners when opportunity offered. Resolutions of thanks to Arcana Lodge and Lieutenant Hutt were adopted by a rising vote, as follows:

Resolved, 1st, That we thank those Masonic brethren heartily.

2d. The whole transaction touches our hearts, and has revived in us, with renewed vigor, all our Masonic affection for the brethren of the Craft wherever found, and particularly those: First Lieutenant Jacob L. Hutt, Robert Green, Worshipful Master of Arcana Lodge, No. 60; E. E. Willis, Worshipful Master; D. C. Ely, Senior Warden; M. S. Shaw, Junior Warden, and L. Estler, Secretary, officers of said Arcana Lodge, No. 60, in the year 1865.

3d. That the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, brother Blackshear, in proper form, convey this report to the Worshipful Master, officers and other members of said Lodge, under the seal of this Grand Lodge.

IDAHO.

The proceedings of the tenth (10th) grand annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Idaho, held at Boise City, Tuesday, September 11, A. D. 1877, are before us, in a volume uniform in typographical excellence and finish with its predecessors; and its contents tend to deepen the favorable impression of Idaho masonry, intimated in our last report.

M. W. Grand Master E. A. Stephens presided, and delivered an excellent, instructive and admonitory address.

His decisions, though numerous and judicious, relate to subjects of frequent discussion and decision in older jurisdictions. We like his rebuke of *electioneering* well enough to reproduce his deliverance on that subject, remarking that he is equally as explicit and clear in all his answers, viz:

Question—"Is it right and proper for Masons to electioneer for office in Masonic Lodges?"

Answer—"No; it is in direct opposition to one of the standing resolutions of the Grand Lodge. In Masonry especially, the office should seek the man, and not the man the office. If a brother possesses real merit, if he have those qualifications which are essential to one in an official position, his brethren will be the very first to find them out, and in due time he will surely have his reward. The election of officers either in the Grand Lodge or its subordinates should ever be the result of a free and enlightened choice of its members, and every Mason should refuse to give his support to any one for office who shall be found guilty of this vile, unmasonic practice.

The Grand Lodge appears to be prospering financially, and the statistics show a gradual increase of members.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

This report is furnished by Bro. O. H. Purdy, chairman, in which he reviews, in a very creditable style and with candor as well as courtesy, the proceedings of forty-seven Grand Lodges. Alabama for 1876 (56th annual) receives due and fraternal notice.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. E. A. Stephenson (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Charles Himrod (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

ILLINOIS

Provides for us, as usual, "a feast of fat things" in its large, well-filled and creditably printed volume of proceedings; indeed there is so much of good matter in it as to cause us serious embarrassment, in essaying the performance of our duties of reviewer. This report gives the proceedings of the thirty-eighth grand annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Illinois, convened at Chicago October 2, A. D. 1877, presided over by M. W. Grand Master Joseph Robbins. The occasion appears to have called together a large assemblage of Grand Lodge constituents, including the representatives of 622 of the 693 chartered Lodges in that jurisdiction.

As before intimated, we cannot hope to review, even briefly, the many interesting subjects treated of in the busy work of this interesting session, and we therefore select from the very able annual address of Grand Master Robbins, which is a model executive message, reviewing the past as well as suggestive of the work of the future, such matter as will indicate the doings and opinions of the Grand Lodge.

GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

Under the heading NECROLOGY, he alludes feelingly and eloquently to the loss by death of R. W. John Dove, of Virginia, late Grand Secretary; R. W. Geo. Frank Gouley, of Missouri, late Grand Secretary, and R. W. Levi Lusk, Senior Past Grand Master of Illinois, who departed full of honors at the ripe age of eighty-two years.

He granted during the year dispensations for six new Lodges, while "in a larger number of instances" he checked movements for the establishment of new Lodges.

He discourages joint occupancy of halls "by Masons and other secret societies," and is quite pronounced against granting dispensations to supersede by-law rules for conferring the degrees "out of time," or authorizing Lodges to unite with other societies at public celebrations, etc.

As to watching the sick, he says:

WATCHING WITH THE SICK.

"The question has been asked whether the Master of a Lodge has power to compel members who are able to assist and watch with sick brethren.

"The Master certainly has no summary process in such cases. Of course there can be no question of the general duty resting upon every Mason to assist a worthy distressed brother to the extent of that brother's

necessity and his own ability. The mere fact of sickness, however, does not constitute 'distress' such as would warrant an imperative demand on a brother for aid, either in personal service or in a pecuniary way, unless sickness is coupled with indigence. It is not the design of Masonry that sick brethren should receive anything in the way of benefits on that score alone; but it is designed that the distressed brother who is in want, either from sickness or other cause, shall have his pressing necessities relieved; and until this is done, the duty of his abler brother is not performed unless he has given to the extent of his ability. If personal service is one of those pressing necessities, the brother who withholds while he is able to give it, has not done his duty.

His decisions are numerous and well rendered, both in word and doctrine. We quote a few, which relate to subjects of general interest, viz:

"The relation which a member sustains to his Lodge after having been indefinitely suspended by it, is that of a member under disabilities; and the Lodge still retains its right of original penal jurisdiction over him for any Masonic offense during his suspension, whether committed within its territory or elsewhere.

"The landmark respecting physical qualifications—of which our own law on the subject is substantially a repetition—manifestly refers only to the time of making; because, at the time when it crystallized into its present form, and for a long period subsequent thereto, "making" was all, degrees being unknown. Hence the settled practice of our jurisdiction that a brother maimed after initiation may be advanced. Hence, too, an Entered Apprentice maimed prior to his making may be advanced, for although clearly unfit for the degrees, yet the fact that he *was made* forecloses all question of his eligibility. We must take him as we find him, being bound to accept the work of a regular Lodge as lawful, however irregular its action may have been, and however much it deserved punishment therefor. We cannot go behind the fact that his present status is that of a lawful Entered Apprentice, possessing the same rights as all others standing on the same degree.

"An instrument of writing designed for a summons, no matter how worded, is not a summons unless personally served: sent through the mail it becomes simply a notice.

"If a Lodge waives jurisdiction over an Entered Apprentice, or a Fellow Craft, who has paid in advance the fee for all the degrees, then for such portion of the amount paid as it has not returned an equivalent in degrees. it has no claim either in law or equity.

"Waiver of jurisdiction over material in territory possessed in common by two or more Lodges, requires the concurrence of all such Lodges. All have an equal right to receive the petition of any candidate residing within their common territory, and the right to receive the petition of any candidate residing within their common territory, and the right of each is equally exclusive as against a Lodge of another territory. What is equally the property of *all* no *one* can give away.

"The fact that charges have been preferred against a brother does not affect his eligibility for office; the Lodge is not at the mercy of any single brother who might choose at the eleventh hour to prefer charges against a brother who is its unmistakable choice for some office therein.

Bro. Robbins renews his objections to, while thus announcing the failure of the proposition to establish, a

WIDOW AND ORPHAN'S HOME.

"You will learn from the report of the Grand Secretary that of the Lodges voting on the proposed plan to establish a Widows' and Orphans' Home submitted to them for action at the last session of the Grand Lodge, a very large majority have voted adversely. It will be no surprise to you to learn that I view this final result of our discussion of this question with satisfaction. The observation and reflection of each succeding year serve to fix more firmly my conviction that the embarkation of Grand Lodges in large monied enterprises is not only a departure from their legitimate functions, but is offering a premium for future discord and perplexity; and I rejoice that our Lodges evince no disposition to hazard the settled harmony of the jurisdiction upon the vain hope that we can succeed where so many others have failed.

(Alas! for associate Masonic benevolence.)

R. W. Bro. R. S. Dement, in his very admirable

ORATION,

utters many true and suggestive thoughts on the characteristics, ethics, and pervading influences of our loved Institution, for which we thank him. We cannot resist the temptation to reproduce a portion of his poetic apostrophe to Peace, as follows:

If the regions of space had but gathered the *tears*
That your wars have drawn forth in the cycles of years,
And should now pour them out as a torrent of rain,
They would sweep you from earth in a deluge, again!
We plead not for temples of science and art,
That your war tread has crushed from the face of the earth,
For our schools, for philosophy though 'twas a part
Of the infinite soul in our souls seeking birth.
We plead not for commerce, for cities, for fields,
That your power has sent down 'neath the main or the sod!
No, not e'en for our homes, that our altars had sealed
As sacred to love, to its joys and to God.
We plead for Humanity's sake, nothing more;
Oh, nations of earth, at your feet we implore!
Oh, powerful Russia! fair Italy! Spain!
Oh, land of the German! Oh, England! Oh, France!
Heed the lesson of Persia, of Rome, and of Greece!
In the sure wreck of war they but lead the advance,
While the cry of humanity bears the refrain.
Oh, nations of earth, give us Peace! Give us Peace!
My own native land! Dearest, dearest of lands!
America, home of the free and the brave!

From an ocean of tears heed the moan of the wave !
Heed the voice that comes up from a terrible grave !
We turn to you, cling to you, lift you our hands !

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

This report is from the able pen of Bro. Theo. T. Gurney, and we thank him for a kind and considerate review of Alabama proceedings of 1876, 56th annual report, included in his review of Grand Lodges. Bro. Gurney is evidently watching for the "outcome" of the report on Bro. Sayres resolutions on negro masonry. But the subject, after a longer discussion than it deserved, we think, was tabled in 1877 and has not been since renewed.

Bro. Gurney gives ample space to the Cuba and Colon controversy, reproducing the voluminous circulars issued by both contestants, thus doing ample justice to the claims of each. His conclusion, after a frank and intelligent examination of all the papers, is as follows:

"Fourth. There is no power, apart from Independent Sovereign Symbolic Powers, that can authorize the formation of Symbolic Lodges. After much thought, your committee is reluctantly led to the conclusion that the so-called Grand Lodges of "Cuba" and "Colon" are not lawful bodies of Symbolic Masonry, and recommend the adoption of the following:

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge declines to recognize the "Grand Lodge of Colon," or the "Grand Lodge of Cuba," both claiming Symbolic Masonic Jurisdiction in the Island of Cuba, as lawful Bodies of Craft Masonry."

This is more exclusive than we are yet prepared to accept. It goes too far, we think, when it is remembered that in this matter we are traveling in foreign countries, where American ideas are unfamiliar to the races who build the "Grand Orients" and delight in a Composite style of architecture.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Joseph Robbins (re-elected). .....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Jno. F. Burrill (re-elected.....Grand Secretary.

INDIAN TERRITORY.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory held its third grand annual communication at the town of Vinita, Creek Nation, I. T., on Tuesday the 4th day of September, A. D. 1877.

The Lodge was opened in Ample Form by the venerable and M. W. Grand Master G. McPherson, whose annual address delivered on the oc-

casion, is replete with earnest, encouraging, and instructive words to the Craft committed to his overseership. We have heretofore devoted much space to this, to us, interesting effort of our Indian brethren to organize a Grand Lodge of their own, and we are encouraged on the reception of each succeeding report to renew our hopes and expectations of the final success of this enterprise.

It is true, she has recusant lodges (Flint and Alpha for instance) defying her jurisdiction, and other serious difficulties to contend with, but they will yield eventually, and Grand Master McPherson, old as he is, will live to see of the fruits of his labors and be abundantly rewarded for his care and anxiety.

He says of the present condition of the jurisdiction, and of his hopes for its future prosperity, that:

"Nothing of a momentous nature has transpired within this jurisdiction since last we met. The Angel of Death has again been pleased to pass us by; no vacant seat occurs in our Grand Body.

"Owing to our anomalous political condition, Masonry cannot be expected to progress in this territory at the same rate it does in other jurisdictions. Yet it, together with religion and education, keeps pace with our slowly advancing civilization; and in due time, if we are true to ourselves and true to the interests of our glorious cause, the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory will shine forth in all her beauty and splendor, and take her stand in the great Masonic family, first among her equals. The intermediate link in the chain that binds the Orient and the Occident—the centre of the great American Lodge, and located in a country as lovely as that in which Masonry first found its natal home, there is nothing to prevent this from becoming, at some day in the future, the seat of the Masonic empire. It but remains with you, my brethren, and those who come after you, to make it as such. The Grand Master of the Universe has done his part—bestowed with a bounteous hand all the precious gifts of nature upon your lovely land; a land where religion, education, and Masonry, the handmaids of civilization, will one day, like our cherished emblem of immortality, in perpetual verdure bloom."

A very interesting and creditable report on

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Is in the printed proceedings. It appears to be the joint production of the committee, under the division of duties indicated in the following extract from the report:

"When your committee was appointed by the last Grand Communication, we agreed among ourselves to divide the American Grand Lodges into three groups or divisions, and each member of the committee take one of these divisions on which to report, and be responsible for his own part only. The Northern States fell to the lot of Bro. Murrow, the Southern States to Bro. Hogue, and the Western to Bro. Jones. This re-

port will, therefore, be presented in accordance with this arrangement, and not in alphabetical order."

The reports on the Northern and Western divisions are full and interesting; that on the Southern is about as meagre as Bro. Hogue could possibly have made it.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. J. S. Murrow.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. R. P. Jones (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

IOWA.

Beautiful, for typographical finish and illustration, is the admirable report of Bro. Grand Secretary Parvin for 1878, and as full of good and instructive reading as it is notably superior in its artistic arrangement and adornment. It conveys to us, in the most acceptable shape, the details of the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Iowa, at its thirty-fifth annual communication, held in the city of Cedar Rapids, Tuesday, June 4, A. L. 5878.

The Grand Lodge "was opened in Ample Form on the third degree" by M. W. Grand Master Zephaniah C. Luse, and we note a large attendance of constituent members, including the representatives of 286 chartered Lodges.

The annual address of Grand Master Luse is a long, but clearly expressed, suggestive and useful message, avoiding, as he says, "any display of oratory or rhetoric—my culture has been that of business." He granted during the year "only four dispensations to organize new Lodges and was chary of granting dispensations for other purposes." He was called to adjust many disputes, correct irregularities, and apply discipline and answer complaints, indicating a busy year in that department of his labors. He announces the gratifying intelligence of the resumption of friendly relations and the interchange of Grand Representatives between his Grand Lodge and that of Scotland, but says in reference to a new and strange European rebuff, that:

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of England, however, refused to interchange Grand Representatives with us, and gave as a reason therefor that we are not a *sovereign national* Grand Body."

In speaking of the Grand Orient of France he says, alluding to her disregard of American Grand Lodge sovereignty, and her infidelity, that she—

"Having not only set at naught the supreme authority of American Grand Lodges over their respective jurisdictions, but that of God over men and Masons, we should now wipe our hands of all such bogus Masonry."

He decides the following question *very decidedly*, viz:

"Statement—We have an Entered Apprentice Mason in our Lodge who is a splendid business man, a good citizen, wealthy, and a number one fellow, but it is impossible for him to learn the lectures and stand the required examinations. Query—Can't you, as Grand Master, grant us a dispensation authorizing us to confer the other degrees upon him, waiving examinations?

Answer—The Grand Master has power to do almost anything except to furnish brains for candidates, and he might do that if he had them to spare.

The work of the Grand Lodge, as indicated by the reports of its Grand officers and Committees, was of unusual importance to the Craft of that jurisdiction, and executed in its three days of labor both skilfully and thoroughly.

We are indebted to Bro. L. D. Lewelling for a very pleasant and, we hope, useful hour devoted to reading his excellent oration on the theme, "Masonry a Universal Religion." (Make no mistake, reader, and imagine this refers to the *sect* Universalist.) And we wish our brethren of Alabama could all read and inwardly digest his frequently quaint, but always forcible illustrations of the theme selected. We take to his thoughts and reasonings very naturally and appreciatively, for as is his, so is our belief on that subject.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Bro. T. S. Parvin, notwithstanding his abundant labors in other departments of the work, has sketched us a well-digested and acceptable report on this topic. He has examined the proceedings of forty-nine Grand Lodges, and condenses his report from the matter thus digested, giving the result of his cogitations on such prominent subjects, under CAPITAL headings, as seemed to him most worthy of comment. It is decidedly an interesting report, and to us not at all objectionable. He thus explains his "new departure":

"This duty, commenced as a work of necessity, has been concluded as a labor of love.

"We hope our brother reporters will not take it amiss that we have not specially reviewed their labors, and commended this, and "pitched into" that, of their productions. We always read their writings, and this year more closely than usual, but to comment upon them, in whole or in part, would lead to the results we have deprecated in speaking of commentaries

upon the constitutions of Grand Lodges in the decisions of the Grand Masters—make the tail larger than the head of the kite. We have labored under difficulties in the preparation of this report, such as do not usually beset us, and we are compelled to send it forth unread, without revision, and with all its sins upon its head.

"It is many years since we were called to or forced into labors of this kind. Thirty-three years ago we published our first report, and for many years were as to the "manor born," but of late years we have done the reading, leaving the writing to others, till our hand has become unsteady and eye dim in this peculiar labor. Another year we will, if possible, throw our mantle upon younger, if not broader shoulders, and secure the merit of novelty, at least, as an introduction to commend the good things the next report will contain."

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Jeremiah Wilson.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Theodore S. Parvin (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

KANSAS.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Kansas convened its twenty-second annual communication in the city of Topeko, October 17, A. D. 1877.

A quorum of Lodges answering to roll call, M. W. Grand Master Jacob D. Rush, after filling the vacant stations, opened the Grand Lodge in *ample form.*

The Grand Master's annual address is a brief but suggestive message, rehearsing his official acts and recommending needed legislation.

He granted dispensations for the organization of five new Lodges, but refused a great many applications for such dispensations for satisfactory reasons; and for the good of Masonry. He says in reference to these refusals that:

"Our numbers are, and have been, increasing too fast; and as our Lodge numbers increase, so does our membership. But such a rapid increase of either Lodges or members, is not, in my judgment, an evidence of real prosperity by any means.

The true object and intent of our noble Order, is in many instances, I fear, being perverted into uses entirely foreign to the original designs laid down upon our trestleboard; too many are applying for our mysteries, and too many are gaining admission everywhere for the well being of the Order; too many rough unfinished ashlers are being placed in the Edifice. They not only mar its outward beauty and finish, but also its internal strength and utility. We should pay more attention to the *character* of the applicant for Masonic honors, and not so much to our numerical strength."

He has uniformly refused all applications for dispensations to confer the degrees *out of time*, and says of them:

"In almost every instance, these applications were accompanied by a letter containing a detailed statement of the urgent necessity for a Dispensation in that particular case, together with a recital of the many virtues and good qualities of the candidate; who, living perhaps for years, almost within the sound of the gavel, had thus suddenly, and upon the eve of departure from home to go among strangers, "Acquired a deep veneration (?) for, and a long entertained favorable opinion of our ancient and honorable Order, and a sincere desire to become a member of the same," (before he leaves) if the Fraternity will only do themselves the honor (?) of receiving him at once and "just as he is," even though in so doing, they violate a well established law of this Grand Lodge."

He speaks wisely on the non-affiliate evil, closing with this pungent sentence:

Non-affiliation separates those who are Masons in name only, from those who are Masons at heart. Let them go if they wish to, but *not* upon full pay and honors.

He says of the

CONDITION OF MASONRY.

"It affords me pleasure to state that but few cases have been presented, calling for the intervention of the Grand Master's authority to settle difficulties between Lodges. And those few, of so trivial a character, and so easily arranged, that I have not deemed them of sufficient importance to present to the Grand Lodge.

I am pleased that this is the case, as it is an evidence of that friendly feeling existing between our Lodges, which should ever characterize the relations between those who are co-workers in a common field, for the universal good of the Craft."

Kansas has 164 Lodges working under charters.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Bro. Jno. H. Brown, Chairman, gives us one of his excellent reports on this topic. He reviews, with intelligent and judicious comment, the proceedings of 53 Grand Lodges, among which we are glad to note those of Alabama for 1876—56th annual report—have due and favorable notice.

Brother Brown, to our regret, recommends the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Cuba, and this is about the only one of his opinions to which we feel compelled to dissent.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Jno. Gutherie.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Jno. H. Brown (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

KENTUCKY—1877.

We have the proceedings of the Seventy-eighth Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, assembled at Louisville Tuesday, October 16th, A. L. 5877, with a full attendance of official dignitaries and Representatives of subordinate Lodges.

The address of M. W. R. M. Fairleigh is a well written and instructive annual message, as the following extracts from it will assure our readers while at the same time they will, as we hope, prove interesting and useful reading.

He says of Kentucky's agency in fostering Masonry, that:

The Grand Lodge, of which each of you is a factor, is the Mother Grand Lodge of the Mississippi Valley. She created various Lodges throughout the Southern States, until they became numerous enough to form Grand Lodges for themselves. Wherever her votaries are found they proudly acknowledge her maternity. She stands to-day the peer of any grand jurisdiction—ancient, noble, honorable. Her destiny is in your hands, and right well will her glory be sustained in the hands of such a body of intelligent representatives.

He had generally discouraged the formation of new lodges, and granted dispensation for two only, refusing many applications for such privileges as incompatible with the purity of the craft.

His decisions are very numerous, and we quote a few of them as of general application, viz:

10. No *ballot* is required upon an application for a dimit—the vote is taken *viva voce*.

11. An expelled Mason, who desires restoration, must petition the Lodge which expelled him, if that be in existence; otherwise, the Grand Lodge. There is no prescribed form for the petition, but action upon it is governed by the rules which apply to petitions for initiation.

12. The landmark in regard to physical qualifications applies only to the *making* of Masons, and has no reference to a brother's fitness for office. One may sit in the East, though his physical infirmities would debar him as an applicant for initiation.

13. Dues go on until action is taken as specified in regulation 15 of the Grand Lodge Constitution.

14. The Master is the only officer exempt from discipline by his Lodge.

15. A suspended Mason, whose sentence is reversed, upon appeal to the Grand Lodge, is restored only to the fellowship of the craft at large. He stands in the light of a dimitted Mason until the expiration of the sentence inflicted by the Subordinate Lodge, unless restored by the Lodge.

16. However maliciously a black ball may be supposed to have been cast, the offending brother cannot be arraigned.

17. It is not necessary to open a Master's Lodge in order to open or close a Lodge in a lower degree.

18. The friends of a brother who died under suspension, for non-payment of dues, cannot, by paying his dues, entitle him to Masonic burial.

19. It is not lawful, even by unanimous consent, to pass an E. A. before he has learned the lecture of that degree. "Suitable proficiency" means a knowledge of the lecture and the ability to repeat it.

30. To open or close, the order goes from the W. M. to the S. W., thence to the J. W., and thence to the Craft.

31. The Master should raise the Lodge on opening and closing; the J. W. should raise it only in calling off and on. The Lodge should be called up before the Master gives his order to the West.

32. The right of a visiting Lodge is qualified by affiliation, and dimission forfeits it. There being, however, no prohibiiory statute against it, in this jurisdiction, a visiting dimitted brother usually is admitted by courtesy; but it is one of the prerogatives of a Master to determine what visitors shall be admitted to his Lodge.

33. Members voting on charges against a brother Mason need not possess the qualifications of jurors in courts of law.

34. Affidavits sworn to before an officer authorized to administer oaths, are admissible as evidence in a Masonic trial.

35. In this jurisdiction Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts, equally with Masters, are liable for dues, and subject to discipline for their non-payment.

36. None of the elective officers of a Lodge can dimit.

37. In Masonic trials it is the duty of the Junior Warden, and, when the charges are preferred by another, the accuser, to be present at the meetings of the committee and examine the witness for the prosecution. A like privilege is granted the accused and his attorney.

38. The testimony of "common fame" is admissible in Masonic trials, but extreme caution should be observed in regard to it.

In speaking of the condition of the craft (generally satisfactory), he alludes in the following pointedly condemnatory language to an evil prevalent in many jurisdictions, viz:

"I have seen with much regret how large a number of defalcations are reported in the accounts of Secretaries of Lodges. Sometimes these are total and involve the whole of the cash collections for a year. Often they are partial and are compromised by taking notes, etc. But the whole error lies in permitting the Secretary to *retain the funds of the Lodge*. He has no more right to hold the Lodge moneys than the Tyler or any other private member has. 'It is his positive duty to pay over all his collections to the Treasurer *once a month*, and oftener if the Lodge meet more frequently.

It is the Worshipful Master's duty to see that he does this. It is the prerogative of the Treasurer to demand that he shall do this, and on failure, to report the defaulting Secretary to the Lodge.

The Master is justified in removing a Secretary who persistently uses money to which he has not the shadow of a right. I should approve of the Grand Lodge passing a stringent edict upon this subject.

My visits and correspondence have revealed to me many irregularities both in the transaction of the ordinary business of the Lodges and of the

work in the three degrees. There is but little excuse for the former. The Grand Lodge may ask herself the cause of the latter."

He speaks of the BENEFIT SYSTEM as a "disturbing element in some Lodges," and prononnces it UNMASONIC. Deprecates "the monotonous spirit of eulogy" in Masonic obituary notices.

He is jealous of encroachments on the prerogatives of Grand Masters, and asks :

"Is it not time to raise the warning voice at the growing disposition of Grand Lodges to reduce the powers and lessen the dignity of Grand Masters ?"

The "WIDOW'S AND ORPHAN'S HOME" (of which we have spoken freely and fully in former reports), engages the earnest solicitude and advocacy of the Grand Master, for which we honor him, and although there are troubles and difficulties threatening the revenues of the institution, we judge from the closing paragraph of his long and able defence of the measures of relief proposed for the Home, that all will yet be well with that noble charity. He says :

"As for myself, if my subsistence depended upon such a slim basis, I would rather give that dollar to the Home and die a dollar's worth sooner. It was reserved for Kentucky Masons to give to the world, in the establishment of this Home, the grandest expression of the fundamental principles of Masonry their country ever saw; we have enjoyed the honors that have been heaped upon us without stint in consequence of it; we have seen the grand results of our example in the fact that the question of organized and concentrated charities is engaging the attention of many other Grand Jurisdictions, and, in some, plans have already been adopted for the erection of similar Homes. We have gone too far to recede if we desired to do so. The work must go on and the means must be furnished by us and should be furnished with willing and loving hands. Shall we repeal the assesment law and leave that huge pile of brick and mortar to proclaim our failure to our enemies and as a monument to our stupidity and parsimony ?"

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Bro. Thos. Todd, Chairman, gives us one of his very acceptable reports on correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of 39 American Grand Lodges, including those of Alabama for 1876, 56th annual communication, which receive courteous and fraternal notice.

He speaks of Grand Master Pillans' address of that year as "a business paper, well written and interesting," and quotes freely from it.

He quotes, with commendation, Brother Titcomb's eloquent appeal, inclosing his report on appeals and grievances for 1876, against the careless use of language provocative of strife.

Bro. Todd's report has an added value in the full and interesting re-

view (he appends to it) of European and other foreign Grand Bodies. He is quite lengthy in his review of the Cuban controversy, but concludes, differently from us, by recommending the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Cuba.

We regret that we cannot assent to his conclusions in that matter.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Campbell H. Johnson..... Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Hiram Bassett.....Grand Secretary.

LOUISIANA.

The Seventy-sixth Annual Grand Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana convened at New Orleans, Monday the 11th of February, A. D. 1878, and was opened by M. W. Grand Master Samuel James Powell in AMPLE FORM.

The proceedings before us indicate a very important, and, in some respects, perplexing session, especially so in discussing and adopting measures necessary to provide for the liquidation of their bonded debt. The Trustees recommended a $1 per capita assessment to continue for six years, and the resolution embodyidg that recommendation was voted down, causing the resignation of two of the Trustees; but on renewal of the proposition, providing for a *five* years tax, the measure was passed and the performance of the all-important duty of protecting its financial obligations was undertaken. How often, on reading the proceedings of Grand Lodges, are we reminded of the lesson taught us in our early Masonic career, to "beware of debt." A Lodge debt is, to us, so hedged around with forbidding experiences that we now shun it as we would a deadly poison.

The Grand Master's annual address is short and business like, but contains little of general interest beyond his own jurisdiction.

He announces the death of R. W. J. W. Todd, D. D. G. Master, who "died in the Lodge room in the active discharge of Masonic duties."

He deprecates Lodge connections with stock associations, alluding, we presume, to building and loan enterprises, and says on that subject something a little harsh of modern methods in that direction, viz:

"Stock companies do not bear the best reputation. They are generally regarded as games of chance and speculations, and their ultimate failure is almost a foregone conclusion. I think that Masonry should keep itself free from all entangling alliances with such associations.

Speculative Masonry does not mean Masonic speculation. Lodges

should not engage in business transactions where there is a probability of failure, and thereby become involved in litigation, and perhaps involve the Grand Lodge in its complications. I intend no reflection on the association referred to, or on those who compose it; but I speak of stock companies in general, and only reiterate what I conceive to be the settled policy of this Order—not to engage in any enterprise with the outside world, whose failure is possible and business complications may be the result."

In speaking of the infidel *pronunciamento* of the *Grand Orient of France*, he says:

"In view of our unfriendly relations, it would, perhaps, be in bad taste to subject this action of the Grand Orient of France to severe criticism or denunciation, but I cannot allow this occasion to pass without expressing an emphatic and indignant condemnation of this innovation upon the Body of Masonry.

The paternity of God, and the fraternity of man, are the inseparable tenets of Masonry. Eliminate the one, and the other is a shadow without a substance; the ritual is stripped of its beauty and impressive solemnity; the great moral design is gone, and the Order is powerless for good. I turn away, with fearful misgivings, from a contemplation of the results of this unfortunate delusion.

Bro. Grand Secretary Batchelor's report is, as usual, able and comprehensive, and we quote below some remarks quite applicable elsewhere among those who favor cheap Masonry; remarking *en passant* that Bro. Batchelor not only gave good advice, but also contributed substantial aid towards liquidating the debt by voluntarily appropriating $500 00 of his salary to the funds of the G. L. He says of prevalent errors, etc.:

"That in many places in our jurisdiction, the standard of Masonry is too low, and is too cheap to be properly appreciated. The world will never think well of an institution that does not appreciate its own franchises and privileges. If our institution is worthy of the high encomium claimed and given it, then it is entitled to and should be better maintained and sustained, both in the time devoted and the money contributed to it.

In some cases the annual dues paid to the Lodge is but one dollar a year, in some, two dollars, and in but few cases, in the parishes, more than three dollars.

How a Lodge can be furnished, I do not mean expensively, but as a Lodge should be to make it a pleasure to attend, or that can be made of any moral profit to its members on such an amount, is to say the least difficult to conceive; how it is to prove of practical relief to the poor widow and orphan, or to the weary wayfarer, is a puzzle indeed.

To furnish a Lodge with books, working tools and paraphernalia, even in the plainest manner to be useful, must cost some money; and for a Lodge to work without books and tools, would be like having a theatre without stage or scenery, or making a crop without implements. Time and application is equally needed, especially by those who assume the place of teachers, and it is well to know and admit, that a Mason, any more than any other man, cannot teach properly that which he does not

know or comprehend, and nothing of real or great value is to be obtained without both trouble and expense. Masonry, at a ten dollar degree, and an expense of five or ten cents a month to support a Lodge, will not be apt to claim a very high regard from the profane, or to be able to perform those necessary deeds of charity that prove so satisfactory to all good men, and especially to the good Mason who would like to see his Lodge and the fraternity prosper."

The report on

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Is the joint production of Bros. Geo. H. Braughn, chairman, Ernest Morel and James E. Trimble, committee, and is the second very acceptable report from that committee, which it has been our privilege to peruse.

The proceedings of Alabama for 1876, 56th annual communication, are reviewed with fraternal courtesy and discrimination. The full and interesting review of FOREIGN GRAND BODIES, which supplements this report is a valuable contribution to Masonic literature, of which we have gladly availed ourselves. We quote the committees views (in part) on the CUBAN claims, viz.:

"We have before us documents emanating from the "Grand Lodge of the Island of Cuba," and from the "Grand Lodge of Colon." These two Grand Bodies present their claims to us, and both assert similar rights to be recognized as the Grand Lodge of Cuba. Although we would be inclined to believe (judging from documents examined, that the pretensions of the Grand Lodge of Colon appear to be legitimate and based upon solid grounds,) yet, we do not think that the time has come for us to pronounce definitely upon the grave questions of acknowledgment or recognition of a Grand Lodge in that country. We believe it would be more proper and advisable to defer acknowledgment of either of said Bodies until we are satisfied beyond reasonable doubts and after a most careful examination, which of either of said Grand Bodies we must exchange and entertain fraternal intercourse with."

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Samuel James Powell (re-elected(.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Jas. C. Batchelor, M. D. (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

MAINE.

We have before us the volume of proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Maine at its fifty-ninth (59th) annual communication held in Portland, commencing Tuesday May 7th, and closing May 9th, A. D. 1878.

Present, M. W. Grand Master Edward P. Burnham, and a full attend-

ance of constituent members, comprising Grand and Past Grand Officers, Grand Representatives and Representatives of Subordinate Lodges. As usual in the proceedings of this Grand Lodge we find matter both instructive and interesting to the Masonic reader, and as before intimated, there is an intelligent completeness in her *work* and deliverances quite fascinating to the writer.

The annual address of Grand Master Burnham is an interesting business message, rehearsing the events of the year and suggesting subjects requiring attention.

No dispensations for new Lodges had been asked for or granted. Few cases of "Grievances" (ten trials in all) are reported, and the complaints of violation of jurisdiction, three of Lodge and one of State—either were or would be satisfactorily adjusted.

He invites a protest against the *infidel* deliverance of the Grand Orient of France, as an "innovation striking at the foundation of our Freemasonry."

His decisions, as reported, are not numerous, and we quote the only ones of general interest, viz:

A Brother who is going away, cannot put in a protest against a man who is likely to be made a mason in his absence. He can only object to an actual candidate.

A lodge which voted at a stated communication to attend the celebration of the anniversary of St. John the Baptist, and to assess upon the members the expense of music, can collect the same, such celebrations and having music thereat, being ancient customs.

A masonic hall, after dedication, cannot be used for other than masonic purposes. A lodge having been obliged to vacate its hall, may, if necessary, having obtained consent from the proper authority, temporarily occupy a hall used by another society, until a suitable hall can be procured.

A person who has irregularly received the degrees in a regular lodge, and who desires to be formally healed as a mason, must petition the lodge which he wishes to enter. The lodge must ask of the Grand Master a dispensation to act upon the petition, and send the dispensation fee. The ordinary course will then be taken with the petition. After a clear ballot is had, the person must be re-obligated in all the degrees, and a record thereof made.

OF THE CONDITION OF MASONRY,

He says:

"The returns of the Lodges and the reports of the D. D. G. Masters show that a reasonable degree of prosperity has been enjoyed during the year, and that the Fraternity is about the same, numerically, as a year ago."

The Grand Treasurer reports a good working cash balance in the Treas-

ury of $1,237 64, but in alluding to the fund devoted to charity, we regret the unpromising suggestiveness of his report, as follows :

"No addition has been made to the Charity Fund proper the past year, and facts warrant me in saying that there is now no prospect of any being made in the future.

I have, in accordance with a vote of the Trustees, deposited three hundred dollars as the nucleus of a Reserved Fund of the Charity Fund. This sum was a part of the amount proper to be distributed in charity, and this Reserved Fund is established as a contingent against future depreciations of the funds, lest the small sum available for distribution among the many needy and worthy Brethren, Widows and Orphans within our jurisdiction, should in future years become still more meagre in amount."

On the abounding evil of non-affiliation, pending the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That in all applications for dimits, the lodges within our jurisdiction be governed by the ancient usages and charges of our Institution, and suffer no member to withdraw, unless to form a new lodge or to join another."

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom it was referred, make in their report (adopted by the Grand Lodge), disapproving the resolution, the following important suggestions, viz :

"But great and extensive as are the evils of non-affiliation, your committee believe that an attempt to force affiliation, by retaining members against their will, will not tend materially to lessen those evils. Our present Constitution, while declaring affiliation a masonic duty, leaves the performance of that duty to the free will of the individual mason, but prescribes the consequences of a non-performance of this duty.

This system seems to work so well, that the evil of non-affiliation is less in this State than in most other jurisdictions, and for that reason we deem it inexpedient to make any change. We therefore recommend that the resolution be not revived.

But there is one evil in our present system which we think should be remedied. Now a member, desiring to change his membership from one lodge to another, must first procure his dimit and become a non-affiliate, and then be unanimously accepted by the other lodge, and if, for any cause, his petition is denied, he remains a non-affiliate. We submit herewith a proposed standing regulation, allowing a lodge to receive and act upon a petition for membership before the candidate procures his dimit from the lodge of which he is a member."

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Bro. Josiah H. Drummond has again placed us under obligations for one of his admirable reports on this topic. We have already quoted so freely from it under our review of Cuba as to suggest a fear of bankruptcy if called upon to restore the treasures we have borrowed and utilized.

But Bro. D. has enough literary CAPITAL, and to spare, and we know that he will not willingly deny, of his fullness to the LABOR stained workmen in the quarries of Masonic research, such aid as his lamp of light and experience so abundantly supplies.

The proceedings of Alabama for 1877, 57th Annual Grand Communication, are fully and acceptably reviewed in this report.

In response to Grand Master Burnham's suggestion, the committee on Foreign Correspondence, through Bro. Drummond, recommended, and the Grand Lodge adopted, the following protest against the recent "new departure" of our Brethren of France, viz:

"The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, to which was referred so much of the address of the Grand Master as relates to the Grand Orient of France, have considered the matter and ask leave to report:

That there is no question that the Grand Orient of France has so far yielded to the demands of French atheism as to strike from the required qualifications of candidates, a belief in God, the Father.

For this reason, the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, Canada, and many of the States of our Union, have abolished all masonic intercourse with the Grand Orient.

The motto of the Grand Orient now is, "Freemasonry holds to the principle of an absolute freedom of conscience, and to the brotherhood of mankind. It excludes no one on account of his belief."

While this Grand Lodge yields to no man or body of men, in its emphatic belief in the freedom of conscience and the brotherhood of man, it recognizes these as the result of a belief in the Fatherhood of God. From time immemorial, a belief in God, the Creator and Father, has been the fundamental principle of Freemasonry, and from *this* principle *all others* flow as results. To abandon this principle, therefore, is to destroy the deep laid foundation upon which our whole Masonic Temple is builded. Our reply to the Grand Orient is, "No man or body of men can make innovations in masonry. To attempt this does not change masonry, but puts those who make the attempt outside of the pale of the Institution."

We therefore recommend the adoption of the accompanying resolution.

JOSIAH H.° DRUMMOND, *for the Committee.*

Resolved, That the Grand Orient of France, by amending its Constitution in such a manner that atheists may be admitted as masons, has ceased to be a masonic body; and all masonic intercourse with it, its subordinate lodges, or the members of its obedience, is hereby forbidden."

Number of Chartered Lodges..... 179

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Edward P. Burnham (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Josiah H. Drummond (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND.

The 95th Grand Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maryland (reader, we have persuaded our venerable sister of Maryland to declare her age, and we bring it to the fore-front that all may take knowledge of it) convened in the city of Baltimore on 20th and 21st of November, A. D. 1877.

M. W. Grand Master Jno. H. Latrobe presided, and opened the Grand Lodge in Ample Form, "a due representation of Lodges" being present.

The Grand Master's annual address is in his usual brief but expressive style.

He says, we regret to note, some unpleasant things of the *work* in his jurisdiction, as this:

"In the annual address of the Grand Master, it would seem to be only proper that he should inform the Grand Lodge of the condition of the Order within the State. But on the present, as on all previous occasions since the Grand Master has occupied the East, the want of materials has prevented it. This he has stated again and again. He has changed the Grand Inspectors, in the hope of finding brethren in the counties whose interest in the Order would induce them to perform the duties of the office, but in vain; and at this date the only reports which the Grand Master has received are from the Grand Inspectors of Baltimore city and Baltimore county, and the Grand Lecturer. Having exhausted all the means in his power, heretofore, to obtain through the Grand Inspectors a knowledge of the condition of the Order in the State, the Grand Master has to pronounce the existing system to be an useless one, and leaves it to the wisdom of the Grand Lodge to devise some other, if it is desired to furnish the Grand Master with the means of making a satisfactory report.'

He announces an important reduction of State assessment on the Masonic Temple property from $469,000, claimed the year previous, to $75,000—a great relief in the tax expenditure and quite necessary, too, as we see, by the financial reports, that there is still a deficiency of revenue after the abatement of tax.

We give Grand Master Latrobe's closing remarks (which were also intended as his valedictory) as illustrating the toils, dangers and difficulties which lurk under all Grand Lodge debts, whether incurred in building the Temple or in adorning the sanctuary. He says:

"It is now seven years that the Grand Master has been honored by an election to the high office which he holds, and year after year it has been most gratifying that his election has been unanimous. For many years withdrawn from active participation in the labors and duties of the Brotherhood, your kindness selected him as the orator of the occasion when the corner-stone of the Temple was laid; and when the erection of the building involved the Grand Lodge in debt and difficulty, and when the Temple, although occupied by the Brotherhood, was threatened with

being sold to pay the mechanic liens upon it, the Grand Master was elected with but an imperfect knowledge of the condition of the Grand Lodge. Could he have understood this to its full extent, it is more than doubtful whether even the honor of being Grand Master could have tempted him to assume the burden of the care and responsibility which the office under such circumstances imposed. It was his great good fortune, however, to have around him a brotherhood whose sense of honor was equal to the occasion; and having devised the plan by which the Temple was saved from the disgrace of being sold by the sheriff, the Grand Master obtained from Bro. Francis Burns and John W. Garrett, Esq., the pecuniary assistance by the aid of which, and through the forbearance of creditors, he was enabled to carry it out; so that the obligations of the Grand Lodge were ultimately met—the floating debt paid, and the credit of the Grand Lodge placed on as firm a footing as it was possible to occupy, while its stock remained comparatively without value, in the hands of those who had trusted to the honor of the fraternity when they subscribed for it.

"This was accomplished virtually two years ago, and it had then been the intention of the Grand Master to take that occasion to decline a renomination if it were offered. He was in hopes, however, of being able to do something towards paying to the stockholders other than the Lodges, a partial dividend, at any rate, during his term of office; and in one of his addresses he ventured to express the belief that the Centennial year of 1876 would be marked by a commencement of so good a work. In this expectation the Grand Master was disappointed, owing to a very unexpected falling off of the revenues derivable from the Temple. When this became apparent, and the object which he had always in view from the beginning seemed to become of remote realization, the Grand Master stated to many of his friends that at the November Communication of 1876 he would decline a renomination. He was not able to resist, however, the compliment of a unanimous re-election, and he is therefore still your Grand Master.

"The time has arrived, however, when the Grand Master must leave to others the duties and yield to them the honors of his high office; and he now announces that he is not to be considered a candidate for re-election should any brother be disposed to nominate him."

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE,

Is from Bro. Jno. S. Tyson, for the committee, and is, to our taste, a very creditable one, though Bro. T. in his "conclusion" craves charity for his defects, and seems diffident and hesitant in ushering it before reviewers, who are in our experience much less inclined to be hypercritical than he seems to fancy.

Bro. Tyson reviews the proceedings of forty-four Grand Lodges, including Alabama for 1876, 56th annual communication, which are fairly and acceptably commented upon. In answer to our *feeler* of that year, thrown out to induce our good sister Maryland to own up as to whether she was

of the "fat, fair and forty" of this generation, or entitled to rank among the great grandmothers of our Israel, Bro. T. thus owns up to the imputation of representing a Masonic VETERAN, viz:

"The Grand Lodge of Maryland was formed July 31st, 1873, at Easton, Talbot county, by five (Eastern Shore) Lodges holding charters from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and John Coates, P. D. G. M. of Pennsylvania, was elected first Grand Master of Maryland. This annual communication is, therefore, the 95th.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Jno. H. Latrobe (re-elected 7th time).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Jacob H. Madairy (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of this old Commonwealth held its (*one hundred and forty-fourth anniversary*) grand annual communication for 1877 at Boston on the 12th day of December, A. L. 5877, and was opened in Ample Form by the M. W. Grand Master Percival Lowell Everett.

The volume containing the proceedings of this communication is remarkable for the beauty of its typographical execution, and is also adorned with three admirable engravings, introducing to us (or us to) the manly features of three worthies of that jurisdiction, who are also famed abroad for their civil and masonic virtues, and whose names will descend to posterity as those of true and faithful Craftsmen who loved and served their fellows, while in work and wisdom they illustrated the beauties of our art. The engravings alluded to familiarize us very pleasantly with the features severally of M. W. Grand Master Percival Lowell Everett (*now* P. G. M.), R. W. P. G. Master Wendell F. Davis, and of R. W. P. G. Master Charles J. Danforth.

The annual address of Grand Master Everett is, as usual with his executive messages, full, able, and suggestive—excellent both in matter and diction.

He announces with pleasure that the Lodges throughout the jurisdiction are enjoying peace and harmony; announces the sudden death of P. G. Senior Warden R. W. William J. Sowin; gives a full and interesting statement of the financial condition of the Grand Lodge (tabular), from which we gather that the net indebtedness has decreased during the year, being stated now at $278,925 91 as against $290,981 71, as stated for the previous year. He granted during the year dispensations for two new Lodges.

He thus records his effort and success in restoring uniformity and accuracy of

RITUAL.

During the three years that I had the honor of occupying the position of Deputy Grand Master, under Grand Master Nickerson, it became necessary that I should accompany him in his numerous visitations from Cape Cod and Cape Ann to Bershire Hills. I thus attained much insight into the state of affairs generally throughout the jurisdiction. The universal complaint was the want of uniformity in the work; changes were constantly made, and finally, at the time of my election as Grand Master, three years ago, there were hardly two Lodges in the State working alike. I determined to correct such a state of things, and after my installation I appointed a large and experienced committee to endeavor to restore the Ritual to its original purity. What has been the result? Throughout the entire jurisdiction the Lodges are working with the greatest uniformity, and vie with each other as to who can work with the greatest excellence.

He mourns, with the eloquence of a true heart, bereaved but hopeful, the

DEATH OF DR. LEWIS.

Among the shining lights which during my term of office have passed from the horizon of this Grand Lodge, I cannot fail to advert to the overshadowing loss sustained by the entire Fraternity in the death of Winslow Lewis, on the 3d day of August, 1875. In broken accents of affectionate grief we expressed—alas, how inadequately!—our sense of a bereavement which was then scarcely to be measured. The softening and reconciling hand of Time has not lifted the sorrow from our hearts. The genial and noble Brother has almost taken away our affections, and hid them in the grave where he lies buried from our sight. Only by the close eye of faith can we behold him as he now lives, translated above the mists and the sorrows of earth. Let his life and his record as a Mason abide with us, for its reproof, for its correction, and, above all, for its good cheer. * * * * * * *

It seems to be the peculiar privilege or good fortune of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts to become the recipient and custodian of those treasures of masonic literature of the olden time, illustrating the intimate connection of Masonic names with the important events of our revolutionary struggle, and the dependence of struggling Liberty for success and establishment upon Masonic sympathy and deeds of patriotism. Each year, of late, the Massachusetts reports have heralded some new trophy, some historic gem, identifying Masonry with the patriotic struggles of 1776; 'till we begin to look to them now with confidence, as the seasons roll 'round, for the announcement of new and still greater dis-

coveries connecting our worthy Masonic ancestors with the Patriot throng of revolutionary Heroes. The volume before us contains historic matter of this description that ought to be placed on record in the proceedings of every American Grand Lodge, and become familiar to every American Mason. We hope to make room next year, by curtailing our report in other respects, for the interesting papers, described by Grand Master Everett in the annexed letter of acknowledgement, viz:

GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS,
OFFICE OF THE GRAND MASTER,
December 14, 1877.

Right Worshipful Marshall P. Wilder:

DEAR SIR AND R. W. BROTHER:—The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts has just received from your fraternal hands a most welcome gift, namely, a well-worn copy of the Eulogy on the life, character, and services of our illustrious Brother, George Washington, pronounced before the Fraternity, at the Old South Meeting House, in Boston, on Feb. 11th, 1800, by Timothy Bigelow. The pamphlet also contains two addresses, signed by committees of the Grand Lodge to Brother Washington during the term of his Presidency, with his answers thereto, and a letter of condolence to Mrs. Washington, written shortly after the decease of her distinguished husband, with her answer, enclosing her gift to the Grand Lodge of the lock of hair which has ever since been regarded by the Fraternity in this Commonwealth as its choicest treasure.

The historical associations evoked by your generous gift embrace not only the period of the Revolution with its immediately succeeding years, into which was gathered so much of interest to our country and our Fraternity, but the personal character and deeds of two Brethren, whose lives shed a brilliant lustre upon the cause of patriotism and of Masonry. The *subject* of the eulogy is to-day, as upon the day of his death, enthroned first in the hearts of his countrymen. "The cassia shall forever bloom o'er his head; for he hath gone down cloudless in the west, ripe in years and full of glory."

The *author* of the eulogy, a Junior and Senior Grand Warden and twice a Grand Master for a full official term of this Body, has left for the contemplation and instruction of his successors, a pleasant and delightful memory of duties well done, of a life well spent, and of all the virtues and graces of a noble character. * * * * *

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Charles A. Welch.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Charles H. Titus (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

Both elected by *unanimous* vote of the Grand Lodge.

MICHIGAN.

We are not favored regularly with reports from this active, busy hive of intellegent Craftsmen, who work to preserve and perpetuate in its purity the Masonic Art in the lake-bordered peninsula of Michigan, and, therefore welcome the more cordially the volume of proceedings for 1878, now before us.

It gives the work of the M. W. Grand Lodge of that State at its grand annual communication (the thirty-fourth), held at Grand Rapids, January 22, A. L. 5878, which was presided over by M. W. Grand Master William Dunham. We note the attendance of Representatives from 320 of the 338 chartered Lodges belonging to that jurisdiction as a favorable token of the interest felt by her *subordinates* in the important legislative and advisory duties of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Master's address starts out with an intimation of his inability to do the requisite *talking*, to which, as the lawyers say, we *except*. He says:

"One hundred and sixty years ago a worthy member of the Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons compiled for the use of Lodges in and about Westminster, the General Regulations known as the Anderson Constitutions. These Regulations are regarded as high authority among Masons everywhere, and, except where they have been modified by new Regulations, are still considered of binding force.

"Article XXXVIII of these ancient regulations, speaking in regard to the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, provides that, 'The Grand Master or his Deputy, or some brother appointed by him, shall harangue all the brethren, and give them good advice.' As talking is not my forte, I was at first inclined to call upon the Deputy, or some other brother, to perform this important duty; but upon examination into the past usages of this Grand Body, I found that all my predecessors (except in cases where they were absent) had performed this duty in person, and not desiring to be the first to depart from what had hitherto been the rule, I have concluded to attempt the performance of this duty myself. I will not, however, detain you long with a harangue, and my words of advice will be few."

He says some good words of Masonic stability, *establishment*, but attributes its evergreen, or rather ever renewed, vigor too much, we think, to *conservatism*, which is to our thinking rather the agent (instrument) than the cause of its perpetuity. We consider conservatism rather a habit or expression of its life than a cause of its being. We quote a paragraph or so to indicate his views on the subject alluded to, viz:

"Any one who may study the spirit and genius of our institution will be impressed with the conservatism which pervades its history and its progress, and which stands out pre-eminently as the cardinal principle underlying the whole fabric. Among all nations, and all religions, and

under every form of government, since we have any reliable trace of its history, has Freemasonry preserved the even tenor of its way. In times of tranquillity and peace, in times of bloodshed and war, in times when the public mind has been agitated and excited over questions which have shaken the very foundations of human society, in times when pious zeal and religious intolerance have taken hold of the passions of men—smothering individual conscience and causing the commission of excesses, at the bare cotemplation of which humanity shudders, in times of civil convulsion and internecine strife—in all and under all circumstances has our beloved institution steadily kept and pursued the same conservative course. Why has it been thus? What talismanic influence causes the wild waves of passion and fanaticism to break harmless at the portals of Freemasonry? Is it not owing to our conservatism? And why has Freemasonry been thus always conservative?"

We answer his queries by suggesting or answering that LOVE is the real life-principle, the perpetuating and preserving power of Masonry, of which conservatism is but an auxiliary and exoteric adjunct and attribute. Love is the real inner life and soul of Masonry, and if that soul were dead not all the beauties of conservatism, nor age, nor universal esteem for past services, could warm it back to life and renew its Wisdom, Strength and Beauty. Without love, or charity, the empty casket, however adorned by conservatism and historic fame, is but an inexpressive symbol, a far-off echo of the life that *was and is not.*

He reports eight new Lodges as constituted during the year; speaks favorably of the Craft under his jurisdiction.

His decisions are quite numerous and very acceptable, in our judgment of Masonic law. We quote a few, as bearing upon questions still mooted in this and other jurisdictions, viz:

It is the prerogative of a W. M. to decide whether or not he will entertain a question relative to the disposition of funds belonging to his Lodge and submit it to a vote of his Lodge.

Any brother disclosing the secret business of the Lodge, such as the rejection of a candidate, or the color of his or another's ballot, is guilty of gross unmasonic conduct.

The report of a committee appointed to investigate the character of a petitioner for the degrees in Masonry need not necessarily be confined to the form prescribed by our regulations. It is proper for the committee to make any remark it may see fit to make touching the moral conduct and record of the petitioner, or to question the petitioner himself—especially as to whether he has applied for initiation to any other Lodge.

It is not proper to charge a fee for a certificate of dimit. The vote of the Lodge, granting a dimit, is itself the dimit, and the paper usually issued to the dimitted brother is merely a certificate or evidence of the action of the Lodge in the premises, and nothing should be charged for it.

When a Lodge is convinced that it has unjustly inflicted Masonic punishment on a brother, it should not wait for him to petition for reparation of the injustice done him, but it should voluntarily and promptly take the necessary steps to rectify its own wrong.

On all questions before the Lodge every member thereof present must vote, unless personally interested in the result, or unless excused by a unanimous vote of the Lodge.

The R. W. Grand Secretary, Bro. Ellery J. Garfield, resigned his office on the 19th of November, 1877. Cause--business engagements, preventing his giving "that attention to the office that it requires," and the Grand Master appointed R. W. Bro. William P. Innes "to discharge for the unexpired term the duties of Grand Secretary."

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

R. W. Bro. William P: Innis makes a very interesting report on correspondence, though we notice an incompleteness, in the absence of Alabama and several other Grand Lodges from his roll of proceedings reviewed. We regret that our proceedings should have failed either to reach him or claim his attention, but our brother gives the following reasons for omissions which we accept as satisfactory. He says:

"Assuming the duties of Grand Secretary but a short time ago, and being since then very much occupied with other matters requiring immediate attention, we have given this review such consideration as circumstances would admit of.

"All the proceedings that have come to hand have been examined and reviewed.

"Many will not appear in this report, as owing to the late date of issuing the last proceedings of the Grand Lodge, they were included in that report by the former committee."

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. John W. Finch..... .....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. William P. Innis.....Grand Secretary.

MINNESOTA

Mourns the death of her Most Worshipful Grand Master James C. Braden, and the report before us gives the proceedings of a special communication, convened December 16, 1877, to meet the body on its arrival from San Antonio, Texas, where the Grand Master died, and escort his remains to the place of sepulture, there to be interred with Grand Masonic honors. It is rarely the case that the Grand East is thus vacated by death and we truly sympathize with our brethren of Minnesota in the bereavment which caused them to assemble their "Lodge of Sorrow."

The report also furnishes the proceedings of the twenty-fifth annual communication of the Grand Lodge, held at St. Paul January 1st, A. D.

1878, and presided over by the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, E. W. Durant.

One hundred and one subordinate Lodges represented out of a total lodge Register of 129, at that date, but increased to 133 by four charters issued during the session of the Grand Lodge.

THE ANNUAL ADDRESS

Of the R. W. Deputy Grand Master is appropriate and dwells much upon the sad events which marked the year just then closed as one of peculiar bereavement, for the Grand Master and Grand Tyler had both *dimitted* to join the LODGE CELESTIAL.

He speaks eloquently and truthfully of the deceased M. W. Grand Master in the following sentences:

"Brethren, the character of our Grand Master was such as to merit our warmest commendation. His character was of that rare type that men delight to honor, and, my brethren, the honors we have paid, and on this day pay, to the memory of our deceased brother, are not mere offerings to the dead, or mere consolations to the living, for honors paid to the memory of such a man go beyond, and become incentives to those who, witnessing such scenes, cannot remain insensible to the fact that men's lives live after them in the memory of their fellow men As a citizen, Bro. Baden was strictly moral and of rare ability; as a soldier, our State and country can testify of his worth, recorded as it is in the history of hard-fought battles; as a husband, devoted and affectionate, and solicitous always for the happiness and welfare of her who in early life he had chosen to walk with him life's pathway hand in hand.

"And now, my brethren, you have again, like the Craft of old, assembled to receive instructions for your work. You examine the trestle board, and behold there are no plans upon it; you look to the East, and the Grand Master is not there; instantly there flashes upon your mind the beautiful, aye, the grand story upon which our noble order is founded, and in quick review pass before you the quarries and fellow crafts at work —the mountains of Lebanon, with their tall and stately cedars, solemn sentinels of that sombre land, and there is Joppa, where the timber for the building of the Temple was brought by the sea, there she sits on the high hills, overlooking the waves, while far away to the west shines the Mediteranean, blue and lustrous, as a silken tunic; and there, too, is Jerusalem, the city of the children of *God*, and in the minds of us they are building the second Temple; silently, stone by stone, rises the magnificent fabric, the temple of a nation, the poetry and religion of a whole people, grand and lofty, had found expression in that one Temple, built and dedicated to the one *God*.

"But a shadow falls across the brightnes of the scene. No plans are found upon the trestle board, and the workmen, looking each into the face of his brother, says, "Our Grand Master is dead." So I come to you my brethren, this day, and say, *our* Grand Master is dead."

Notwithstanding the very able report on colored Masonry made by Bros.

Pierson and Goodrich to the communication of 1877, and the exhaustive discussion of the whole question, followed by an almost unanimous vote against the recognition of Prince Hall Grand Lodge and its subordinates (321 to 7) this vexed question was again presented to the session of 1878. Some good brother proposed a resolution modifying, if not rescinding the action of the previous Grand Lodge, as "not reflecting the judgment of this Grand Body, or of the Craft within its jurisdiction." But we are glad to record the fact that the Grand Lodge promptly adopted a report confirmatory of its previous action, and thus *squelched* the discussion and controversy.

We note one unpleasant episode in the proceedings, and one, too, of very rare occurrence—the arraignment of P. G. Secretary E. D. B. Porter before the Grand Lodge for misappropriation of Grand Lodge funds—a clear case of defalcation.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Bro. A. T. C. Pierson gives us one of his excellent reports on correspondence, in which he reviews the proceedings of fifty-two Grand Lodges, among which the report of Alabama for 1876, the 56th annual, receives due notice and consideration.

We notice that Bro. Pierson is opposed to Bro. Sayre's resolutions on negro Masonry (1876) and says they are a "curiosity." But they were not *adopted*, were tabled eventually, and so we drop the subject with the remark that we might, if in a grumbling mood, complain of Bro. Pierson for having treated these resolutions too much as though the Grand Lodge was responsible for their being *offered*.

We thank Bro. P. for a just and well-deserved compliment to Bro. Titcomb, chairman of our Committee on S. E. and Appeals, given in the following allusion to the report of that committee for 1876, viz:

"From the report of the Committee on Suspenssons, Expulsions and Appeals, we quote, and wish that the extract was printed in letters of gold and suspended where it would meet the eye of Masons in their daily avocations, for the truths therein contained cannot be too firmly impressed."

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. E. W. Durant.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. E. T. C. Pierson (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

MISSISSIPPI.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of this State held its Sixtieth Annual Communication in the city of Grenada, commencing Wednesday February 6th, A. D. 1878. Present, M. W. Grand Master John Y. Murphy, with all Grand Officers (except Grand Sword Bearer) in stations, and Representatives of a quorum of constituent Lodges.

The Grand Master's annual address is a well arranged and appropriate message, from which we shall *make* extracts of such portions as tend to give our readers a comprehensive view of the condition of Masonry in that jurisdiction.

He very properly deprecates the use of Lodge rooms for profane purposes, especially for political meetings and social dancing. Of the condition of the *Craft*, he says:

"We have cause to congratulate each other in the fact that harmony prevails throughout this Grand Jurisdiction, with a few slight exceptions. It may be safely asserted that there is a complete harmony between Subordinate Lodges and among the Brotherhood, as ever existed in the Order, since the organization of this Grand Lodge, when comparative numbers are considered. Still I have to report what was said in my address twelve months gone by: "Our numbers have not increased as in some former years," and for the same reason as was then given—"hard times"—only it has been intensified. I consider this a good omen—although we all may regret the cause, taking it for granted I have given the correct one—for I cannot believe the greatest danger to the Institution lies in the mere want of numbers. Much of the danger is to be found *within the Lodge*; consequently in proportion as our numbers are, the *quality being bad*, just in the same ratio will injury accrue to Freemasonry. In fact the purging which has been going on in our jurisdiction for the past few years, while it has reduced our membership roll, has made us much more powerful for good. This agency should not be relaxed, and when there is added to it a *strict tyling*, that is to say, allow none to enter our portals except the *truly* worthy, and in a short time the genuine essence of Freemasonry will be *felt*, *seen*, and *heard*, all around us.

It is implied in what I have said that it is not the uninitiated, or even the Anti-Mason who is endangering our Masonic Temple most; nay, verily, the assaults of foes from without dwindle into insignificance when *contrasted* with the influence of *bad men* within who have deceived us, and who have perchance been too strongly recommended by *personal* friends among us. Overzeal of *the friend* in trying to break down *even well founded* opposition to the reception of a candidate, or as is very often the case, in trying to drive other members from their honest convictions of duty, where efforts are being made to get rid of the unworthy, very often produces discord, and sometimes results in irreparable injury to Subordinate Lodges. Only men of the strongest moral courage *dare* to use the negative vote, in the *one* or affirmative, in the *other* class of cases. My idea of duty, in such matters, is this: "oppose with firmness the unworthy applicant," and when a piece of timber has been brought in, "which is un-

fit for the builder's use"—when the fruit of the tree is evil instead of good—go forward with equal firmness and earnestness: 'cut down and cast it out.'"

He announces with appropriate eulogy the death of a veteran craftman, beginning thus:

"Our venerable Bro. Benjamin Springer, Past Deputy Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, died in the city of Vicksburg, on the 20th ultimo, after a protracted and painful illness, at the ripe old age of 82 years, and I am pleased to note the fact that the several Lodges in the "City of the Hills" paid the last sad tribute to his memory, in giving his remains a *true* Masonic burial."

* * * * * * * * *

He pronounces the finances *sound*, as the little money they have is full enough for their frugal wants. Just here we may as well announce (its intimate relationship to the revenue question suggesting the matter, par parenthesis) that the Grand Lodge voted to *indefinitely* postpone the laboriously perfected scheme (after two years of incubation) to establish a "Widow's and Orphan's Home and Industrial School," by 627 yeas to 156 nays. Another *set-back* to the advocates of "associate benevolence," but the adherents to the theory of "individual obligation" will find, we opine, that every such failure will work detriment to the institution in the end. We do not believe in incurring debts or borrowing money to promote Grand Lodge charities, but we do claim that every Grand Body, by economy of expenditures and gradual accumulations, can provide the funds necessary to promote all useful charities appealing for aid to the united efforts of Masons.

The Grand Master concludes his interesting address with these judicious warnings:

Finally, my brethren, allow me to cherish the fond hope that the business of this session will be conducted harmoniously and with great wisdom, so that the rich fruits "of to-day's sowing" may be reaped and enjoyed by the Masonic Fraternity in the far distant future. I beg you to not allow the spirit of innovation to encroach upon the fundamental principles and land-marks of our time-honored Institution. I would warn you, in this day of progress and of *new departures*, that you should bring into requisition the three virtues of prudence, caution and circumspection, for, as I have already remarked, we have more to fear from inward expansion than from outward pressure. An inflated prosperity may yet weaken the energies of our venerable Institution, which has survived the storms of ages, and proudly standing amidst the darts and fires of wicked persecution, has upon the ruin and shame of its foes, erected its banner triumphantly.

May the enduring and gentle principles of the Order be engraven upon your hearts, and may the noble Institution *itself* be perpetuated until it

shall be said "time shall be no more," as spotless and as pure as when the "Wise King" dedicated its first temple of God.

Fraternally,

JNO. Y. MURPHY,
Grand Master.

R. W. Bro. J. L. Power, Grand Secretary, makes, as usual, a very comprehensive and interesting report. He says of the returns and

NUMBER OF LODGES:

"We have now on the Register 321 chartered Lodges, and one under dispensation. The regulations require the returns to be at the Grand Secretary's office by the 10th of January. Only 85 were received to that date. Up to and including the 4th inst. 247 returns were received and carefully examined, and errors corrected where found. I am happy to report that the returns are generally accurate and neatly prepared. A few were prepared with pencil, careless spelling of names, etc."

Only 247 Lodges made full returns, and these show a net loss of members, stated at 520. We always read with pleasure, and profit too, the interesting and well matured reports made annually to the Grand Lodge of Mississippi by its able committee on Jurisprudence. The committee for 1878 consists of Bro. A. H. Barclay, chairman, Frederic Speed and W. G. Paxton, all of them wise and accomplished Freemasons, and, we think, Past Grand Masters. The report for that year compares favorable with those of previous years, and yet what we consider one of its most correct decisions was overruled by the Grand Lodge. The *rejected* decision we quote below, giving also the question as stated:

Question—At a stated meeting of ——— Lodge a dimit was granted Bro. A., but before its issuance by the Secretary Bro. B. who was not present at the time the dimit was granted, presented objections thereto, and informed the Secretary that Bro. A. had been guilty of gross unmasonic conduct, and that he, B., was prepared to prefer charges against A., has the Secretary the right to withhold the dimit until the next stated meeting of the Lodge, and can the Lodge rescind its action had at the last meeting in that behalf?

Answer—The principle involved in this case was first announced by this Grand Lodge in 1870, and reasserted in 1871. Sec. 67 and 68 R. and R., clearly give the Lodge jurisdiction of the case. Had the Lodge, at the time application was made to it for a dimit, been in possession of the facts which were afterwards communicated to the Secretary, it would have delayed the granting of a dimit, and ordered an investigation, and the Secretary as the official organ of the Lodge, acted wisely, and showed his zeal for the institution of Masonry, by delaying the whole matter until the Lodge should again meet, when the statements made to him would be laid before the Lodge, for such action thereon as might be deemed best for the harmony of the Lodge and the good of Masonry. The simple granting of a dimit does not deprive the Lodge of jurisdiction. The Lodge should cause the charges to be preferred, and prosecute the case,

with a view of ascertaining the whole truth of the matter. If the brother be found guilty as charged, he ought to be punished, but if innocent, he should at once be furnished with the certificate of his dimit.

THE REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Is from the pen of Bro. J. M. Howry, and we welcome him to the reportorial ranks with hearty good will, recognizing, as we do, in this his first effort "his fitness to be received and ranked a knight among us," and thankfully appreciating the pleasure and profit his report has afforded us in its perusal. When we first approached this report, expecting again to greet Bro. Bush, (with whom we had started a little tilt on the question of what is religion? or rather is Masonry a religion?) we confess to a little disappointment at the retirement of our recent opponent (in the religious combat), but a more careful inspection of the work satisfied us that it had the peculiar form and beauty indicative of the master workman's skill. So we read and examined, forgetting, as we proceeded, our temporary disappointment in the change of critic, and becoming more and more interested in Bro. Howry's well arranged and really able report.

He reviews in alphabetical order, and with evident thoroughness of study and discriminating skill and fairness, the proceedings of most of our American Grand Lodges. His notice of Alabama—report for 1876—the 56th annual communication, is full and very acceptably courteous and discriminating.

By quotations from Grand Master Pillans address, and reports of committees, aided by judicious comments, he has succeeded in producing a very fair *resume* of our most important work in that year, and we judge that his report of other Grand Bodies is equally perfect and comprehensive.

Regretting that we can do no more, time and feeble health both requiring us to push our work to a speedy completion, we give his

CONCLUSION.

We have finished our task. Imperfect as it is, we submit it to our own Grand Lodge with the hope that the questions discussed may be examined with a liberal spirit, and where our opinions are not in exact accord with what may be regarded as settled law and practice, that they may not disprove too hastily, nor condemn without investigation.

To our brethren of independent Grand Jurisdictions, and whose opinions we have commented on, we have endeavored to be courteous and fraternal. In no instance have we designedly made incisive blows or sharp criticisms, without feeling that we were entirely justified, and acting in self-defense, and in the protection of the honor of Mississippi

Masons and that of her Grand Lodge, which are very near and dear to us.

We make this candid acknowledgment that we have never come in contact with a more able, intelligent and courteous body of men than the corps of reporters on Correspondence, and it has afforded us one of the most pleasant and delightful occupations that we have ever enjoyed—that of reading the able reports which have fallen into our hands during the year 1877.

Respectfully submitted,

J. M. HOWRY,
For the Committee.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Charles T. Murphy..... Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. J. L. Power (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

MISSOURI.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Missouri assembled in its fifty-seventh Grand Annual Communication, in St. Louis, Tuesday, October 9th, A. D. 1877, and was opened in Ample Form by the M. W. Grand Master, Xenophon Ryland.

The pamphlet report of its proceedings is adorned by an admirable steel-plate engraving of their deceased R. W. Grand Secretary,

GEORGE FRANK GOULEY.

This portrait, in its faithful delineation of the manly features and genial facial expression of this universally loved and mourned masonic nobleman, awakens anew the *coronach* of grief, while yet renewing "with sweet sorrow" the remembrance of our personal friendship and pleasant intercourse with the deceased in days "lang syne."

The volume before us is full to overflowing of evidences of the useful and exalted position this true mason had attained among his brethren, and of their love and admiration for his excellent qualities of head and heart. The memorial proceedings at their special communication of October 11th, 1877, give bountiful expression to the worth of our deceased brother, while they but echo the sorrows of the great masonic world at the loss of "so great and so good a man" as that once eloquent defender of our faith, the dead to earth, but now risen and glorified immortal, GEO. FRANK GOULEY. Among the many memorial tributes to his memory, we find none more suited to our taste (and space as well) than the following obituary record, extracted from the annual address of M. W.

Grand Master Ryland, which we adopt, and with it conclude our necessarily brief memorial tribute to Bro. Gouley, viz:

GEORGE FRANK GOULEY.

On the morning of the 11th of April, 1877, our Brother, George Frank Gouley, perished in the destruction by fire of the Southern Hotel, in the city of St. Louis. No event in the history of this Grand Lodge has ever caused such universal sorrow as that which followed the announcement of the horrible death of this distinguished mason. George Frank Gouley was born in Wilmington, Delaware, on the 15th day of February, 1832. He was made a mason in Washington City, and from thence removing West, he finally located in St. Louis. His first connection with the Grand Lodge was as assistant to Grand Secretary Anthony O'Sullivan, whom he succeeded in office, in 1866. The Masons of Missouri, in appreciation of his real worth and merit, continued him in this office to the day of his death. Sensible of the confidence and esteem of his brethren, he labored most arduously to advance the interests of this Grand Lodge, and to win for her a commanding position in the masonic world. The reputation and character now sustained attest well the result of his personal labors. While thus unselfishly working for the glory of his own jurisdiction, he never forgot the universality of Masonry, and unconsciously was making for himself a name that will be remembered so long as mortals have need of brotherly love, relief and truth. The presentiment of a sudden and unexpected death called forth the finer sensibilities of his nature, and gave him no time to brood over or cherish animosities. He was constantly guarded in his actions, for fear that offense might be taken when it was not intended, and of the want of opportunity to correct such false impression. A voice seemed to whisper to him,

"While others set, thy sun shall fall,
Night without eve shall close on thee;
And He who made with sudden call
Shall bid, and thou shalt cease to be."

The night came, and no eve has yet followed it. His work was done. For the benefit of those who should succeed him, he had carefully arranged the tabular statements published in the Proceedings of 1876. The last important work intrusted to him was finished, happily for us, under his care and supervision, and the history of this body stands forth completed in the reprint of its early proceedings. The hand that gave order and harmony to our work for so many years, and that never was empty in answer to the call of charity, is cold in death. Our column of beauty has fallen, and, weeping, we cannot replace it. The body of Brother Gouley lay in state in this hall for forty-eight hours, guarded by the Sir Knights of St. Louis. No more eloquent tribute to his memory was offered than the silent tear that wet the cheek of so many thousands that came to view for the last time the man who had so little selfishness, and whose heart was as full of sunshine as the light which beamed from his face seemed full of benevolence. His remains were carried to the receiving vault in

Bellefontaine by Missouri Lodge No. 1, escorted by the Grand Commandery of Missouri. As the mournful procession moved through the streets of St. Louis, the assembled thousands testified the universal esteem in which our brother was held, as well as marked the saddest calamity that had ever befallen the city. The remains of Brother Gouley sleep not in the soil of Missouri. It is true, a resting place more sweet and lovely cannot be found than was tendered in Bellefontaine Cemetery, along whose borders the waters of the Mississippi roll, and on whose forests and sloping hills the setting sun always lingers with peculiar brightness. We could not deny the request of the aged mother, that the lifeless body of her boy might be returned to the spot that gave him birth, for we knew she would "deem the dead more near in native land." The precious casket was transmitted to Delaware, and deposited in its last resting place by faithful hands.

To the Masons of Delaware we say, guard well that spot, for we have "lifted the corner of the sod under that low, green tent, whose curtains never outward swing, and have planted there our hearts."

In the name of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, we tender to the widow of our brother our sympathy and affection. There is no sorrow like unto that which has fallen to her lot. We accept with gratitude the expressions of grief and words of comfort that have come from our sister jurisdictions We hope that he who so often greeted us with welcome at our annual convocations, like the flowers which relieved the sombre darkness pervading this hall when last we saw his familiar features, will stand at the door of the Celestial Grand Lodge, "golden-hearted, clad in white," to receive us, as one by one we are summoned from labor to refreshment.

We have alluded to Grand Master Ryland's address as excellent; it is truly so, and abounds alike with useful business suggestions and eloquently expressed thoughts, which, like all real beauties, whether of mind, nature, or of art, are a joy forever. We shall freely appropriate such of its beauties as our space will permit. He rebukes the electioneerers in his prompt denunciation of Palmyra Lodge for an effort, through circulars sent to the different Lodges, to suggest the name of one of its members as a suitable successor of Bro. Gouley (deceased) as Grand Secretary. Some political wire-pullers had demoralized the Lodge with the notion that Masonry permitted such profane practices, designed to create or forestall public sentiment. The author of the circular is probably now a wiser if not a better mason, after incurring the just rebuke of the Grand Lodge.

The decisions are numerous and well rendered. We quote only his review and decision of the question of "mixed funerals," viz:

"Can a Lodge of Masons, when requested to conduct the funeral ceremonies of a deceased brother, who was also a member of non-masonic associations, share with such associations the right of appointing pall-bearers, or allow them to participate in the ceremonies at the grave?"

The difficulties surrounding this question are recognized. If no request is made, we have no right whatever to appear in procession with other associations which have been requested to perform the last sad rites of burial over the remains of a deceased brother. This is a rock of offense to such associationss. If the request is legally and properly made to a masonic lodge, then, in performing these ceremonies, it must have absolute control; and in those jurisdictions permitting other associations to assist at the grave, the lodge performs its ceremonies last. This gives offense.

We cannot afford to apologize to other associations for our laws. They have been handed down to us from generation to generation, and we can suffer no infringement upon them. The lodge on such occasions is at labor, and no one not a mason can participate therein. Non-affiliated Masons cannot appear in our processions. Why exclude them, as well as our Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts, if profanes are to assist in the labor? There is no question of courtesy here. It is a question of masonic law, and is not rightly viewed in any other light.

There is no prohibition against any other associations following the lodge in procession to the grave, thus testifying their respect to the dead, but they are excluded from all further participation.

This is the only rule that will prevent conflicts on such mournful occasions, and is in strict accordance with our principles.

Decision.—That a masonic lodge is at labor when conducting funeral services, and in the performance of this or other masonic labor in public it must have absolute control; and, while exercising this control, no non-masonic associations shall be permitted to participate. This, of course, does not extend to religious exercises.

The creation of *four* new lodges was authorized by Dispensation.

His opinion of the infidel innovation of the Grand Orient of France is eloquently foreshadowed in the following beautiful demonstration of the masonic faith in the

HOLY BIBLE.

The question has been asked, with practical force, Should a mason be installed into office who is habitually guilty of denouncing the Bible? It was put at rest by the accused acknowledging the error of such conduct, and promising its avoidance in future. From the very nature of Masonry there can never be added to the solemn religious test which the profane finds applied to him ere he crosses the threshold of her mystic Temple. Perish the hand that will attempt to mar or overthrow it! Masonry has never claimed to exercise, nor has she any desire to encroach upon, the prerogatives of the Church. She finds man in darkness, and on her altar, as the first object of his vision, open wide the sacred volume stands It is given to him as the rule and guide for his faith and practice. He is not commanded to accept or reject it as a whole. It is simply spread open before him. The joy that filled the heart of the devout Israelite when the "book of the law," long lost, was found, still finds its place in the masonic heart. The light of our lodge homes will never be dimmed so long as that book is kept open. While its open pages are the foundation on which rests the square of truth, and it is touched by the circle

drawn by the elevated points of the compasses, darkness will be dispelled, and the enemies of Masonry will strike at her in vain. He who, by denouncing the Bible, would thrust discord into his lodge, and become a disturbing element, will find himself led therefrom throttled by the cable-tow of harmony. Like the proud bird that hurls his breast against the storm, seeking to reach the light of the sun beyond the cloud, finds itself dashed to the earth with soiled and broken plumage, so the mason that thrusts himself against our Book of Constitutions, in searching for light beyond, will find himself at last thrown down by the contact into deeper darkness of ignorance and error, amid the rubbish of our temple. "For the miracles of God have ceased, and Nature, secure and unmolested, is no longer called on for testimony to her Creator's voice. No burning bush draws the footsteps to His presence chamber; no invisible voice holds the ear awake; no hand cometh forth from the obscure to write His purposes in letters of flame. The vision is shut up, and the testimony is sealed, and the word of the Lord is ended, and that solitary volume is the sum total of all for which the chariot of heaven made so many visits to the earth, and God himself tabernacled and dwelt among us.' It was the day-star of the hopes of our fathers—their pavilion of peace. So may it be ours.

In closing his address, he pleads alike for *faith* and *charity*, thus:

It has been said that a famous light-house off the coast of Cornwall, England, was first built by an eccentric genius, who, proud of its structure, from its balcony defied the storm. The night came when the sea swallowed up the tower and its builder. It was built a second time of wood and stone, by another, who perished in the flames that destroyed it. Yet the third time it lifted up its head under the skill of the builder, who from the rock of the foundation took the stone of superstructure. Upon its lower course was inscribed, "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it." And on its key-stone, above the lantern, the simple tribute, "Laus Deo." And the structure still stands, holding its beacon-light to the storm-tossed mariner.

The Temple we are erecting has for its foundation-stone, "Trust in God." In faith, hope, and charity, we draw from this foundation material for our superstructure, and so long as we shall labor with temperance, prudence and justice, our building shall rise in wisdom, strength and beauty.

In the performance of our work, let us hold aloft the Great Light which enables us to separate the good from the evil, and may we lead our fellowmen to the true knowledge and worship of Him who alone can "cause our feet to stand in an even place." Then shall there be said of it, "The sun will no more be thy light by day, neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee: but the Lord shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory." In the study of our ritual, let us not forget that our work and influence must be felt beyond our masonic halls. He alone earns for himself the title of a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, that uses his light and knowledge not only to restrain, but to call back his brother from error's way, and to alleviate the woes and misfortunes of his fellow-man. High upon the Rocky Mountains there blooms a little flower, light and graceful in form. Though the storms hover around it, come early and linger late, it refreshes the air with its

perfume and fragrance. There is no place so bleak and barren, pressed by the feet of man, but there he may leave evidence of his kinship to the Great Creator, if he will only imitate the Divine example. Here and there he may scatter words of kindness, love and sympathy, and by acts of mercy refresh with perfume even the last darkness that must come to the tired and worn spirit. If we would always be on the alert in the dark and by-ways of earth through which we must travel, we may discover hearts bending before the cold winds and storms of adversity, into which we may drop the seed "whose bloom the world shall see." Our laws may be without a flaw, the truths we teach and principles we hold perfect in their adaptation to the wants of man, but without we put them to practical use, our tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth are meaningless words.

Action on the recognition of the "Grand Lodge of Colon," and the "Grand Lodge of Cuba," was postponed until the next annual communication of this Grand Lodge.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

R. W. Bro. J. W. Luke, Grand Secretary and chairman, gives us a very able review on correspondence, comprising a detailed examination of the proceedings of fifty-two American Grand Lodges, and a very instructive compendium of intelligence as to the status and doings of the most important European Grand Bodies.

We find the Report of Alabama for 1876—56th Annual Communication—noticed with due and courteous consideration. Bro. Luke seems to add to that due proportion of industry, skill and perseverance so necessary to the successful accomplishment of reportorial labor, those qualities of refinement and spiritual susceptibility (if we may use such a mode of expressing our thought) which enable him to adorn his work with sentiments (which some call imaginings) that are to us the true indices of inspirational enlightenment. He did not imagine, but really *felt*, the influences (perhaps himself, the while, intending only an rhetorical apotheosis to the *manes* of the departed Great) which he pleasantly pictures in the annexed closing paragraphs of his review, viz:

> Our work is finished. As the excitement which has sustained us through some weeks of incessant labor gradually abates, now in the "*wee sma' hours*" of the night we feel ourselves relapsing into that sadness of thought which almost overcame us when this undertaking was first before us, and as the almost living forms that were present to our imagination gradually fade away, wearied nature asserts itself, the pen fails in our grasp, and we feel indeed that we are alone.
>
> No, not alone! It was a truth that Bro. Corson uttered when he said that the place was haunted. Aye, it is haunted! we felt it at the outset, and we feel it now. As we droop over this last page, forth from the misty past glides a shadowy band of those renowned brethren who so moulded

the destiny of the Grand Lodge of Missouri. We recognize them as they pass. Among them is Bro. A. O'Sullivan, the Ajax of the Grand Lodge, and last, but not least, Bro. George Frank Gouley, her lamented champion. He looks at our work with a single comprehensive glance, and the air seems to whisper to us, as in days gone by, his murmur of approval; he points with a smile to the names of his former associates of the corps, and then, as his form slowly disappears, we hear the gradually softening refrain of his last words, Farewell! Farewell!

NEBRASKA.

The twentieth annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Nebraska assembled at Omaha Tuesday, June 19th, A. D. 1877—(on which day also was held a special ceremonial communication commemorating the completion of the Grand Lodge edifice, the corner-stone of which was laid in Ample Form 26th October, 1876).

M. W. Grand Master George H. Thummel presided, and delivered a well-written and interesting annual message.

We quote a few paragraphs, as indicative of the condition and work of the brethren of Nebraska, viz:

During the interim since our last assembling, the blessings of peace, quietness and prosperity have reigned throughout our Grand Jurisdiction; harmony prevails, and the craft are busy at their labors, and will present the fruits of the year for your inspection and approval. Our hitherto pleasant relations with sister Grand Lodges remain unbroken, and desiring to further promote a closer relation, and cultivate more of the spirit of true brotherly love and friendship, I have taken great pleasure in appointing representatives of this Grand Lodge near other Grand Lodges, with whom we were in fraternal accord, where vacancies existed.

Five new lodges were created by Dispensation. He suggests action on a subject of no little importance, saying:

At the last session, the question as to "How many masons, members of the lodge, constitute a lodge for the transaction of the business affairs thereof?" was submitted and referred to the judiciary committee, who I presume will report at this session, as many letters of inquiry have been received in regard to this question. I trust that it will be settled by this Grand Lodge at its present sitting, as much difference of opinion is entertained in regard to this, and it is highly important that a uniform rule be adopted and adhered to.

The committee on jurisprudence reported *eight* as the indispensable number, but the report was *laid upon the table*. On the question of the recognition of colored lodges he says:

The question of the recognition of colored lodges will also claim your attention, and I ask of you that careful consideration which the gravity of the subject demands; and as the report of your committee should be thoroughly considered by the members on this floor, it may, perhaps, be

wisdom on our part to receive the report and delay discussion thereon until our next annual communication. I make this only as a suggestion, feeling satisfied that your own good judgment will decide what is best.

The committee on jurisprudence made an able report on this subject, which, we observe by the minutes, was laid on the table—meaning, we suppose, that action was deferred in accordance with the suggestion of the Grand Master. That report was decidedly adverse to recognition.

Bro. Bowen, Grand Secretary, made an able and useful report, combining with the statement of his routine official acts, many interesting statistics of masonry, and also a compilation of the existing laws and regulations of that jurisdiction.

Two orations were delivered, one before the regular communication, by W. Bro. Mark W. Wilcox, and the other at the special and public assembly celebrating the completion of the Temple, by R. W. Past Grand Master Robert C. Jordan. Both addresses are interesting and *apropos* to the occasions which suggested their delivery.

Nebraska has 53 chartered lodges in her jurisdiction.

No report on correspondence.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Geo. W. Lininger.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. William R. Bowen (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

NEVADA.

The proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Nevada, at its thirteenth annual grand communication, held in the City of Virginia, Tuesday, June 12th, A. D. 1877, are before us, and cordially welcomed.

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form by M. W. Grand Master George Robinson, all grand officers at their stations, and in the presence of the representatives of eight constituent lodges (of a total of 19 lodges in the jurisdiction.)

The Grand Master's address is very brief, but unexceptionable in matter and style.

We quote from his message as follows:

Masonry not only claims for itself, but common sense concedes to it, the highest place among all societies of mere human invention. Laden with the hoary years of antinquity, yet vigorous and strong as with the sinews of youth, it has ever merited and received the divine approbation of heaven. How important, then, that we, the descendants of those revered fathers of the institution who placed it upon a foundation so firm, should so guard it that, as unsullied as it has been handed down to us, so

shall we transmit it to those who are to come after us to bear its burends and share in its rewards. In this spirit, thus imperfectly painted, I have endeavored to work during the brief period which has elapsed since you recalled me to this important station; in this spirit may all the work of this and each succeeding communication of this Grand Lodge be accomplished.

I am happy to say that, notwithstanding the great depression in business and financial affairs throughout this jurisdiction, I can congratulate you upon the flourishing condition of the lodges in a material sense; while I am still more happy, and indeed proud, to say that general peace, and harmony, and accord prevail within our borders. I have not been called upon to exercise any of the disciplinary powers vested in me as your Grand Master. As a rule, the brethren seem to be thoroughly imbued with the principles of our great fraternity; and the exceptions are so few, and occur in such unimportant points, as, while they display only the ordinary weakness of human nature, assure us of the trust reposed in the humanizing influence of our tenets.

He recommended no legislation, believing that none was necessary. He thinks that their "constitution, based upon the true theory of masonic government, with a strict adherence to the landmarks of the craft," provide amply for the government and prosperity of the lodges.

Brother Grand Secretary Chubbuck called attention to the following proposed amendment to the constitution, as pending for action at this communication, viz:

In accordance with the constitution, I report the following proposed amendment to the constitution, which was referred to the committee on jurisprudence, to report upon at this annual grand communication, viz:

To amend Section 110, Article I, Part V, so as to read as follows:

"No Master Mason, a member of a lodge under this jurisdiction, shall be entitled to a dimit in any case, except for the purpose of affiliating with another lodge, nor until the lodge of which he is a member shall receive official notice from the secretary, and under the seal of the lodge applied to for membership, of the fact of such application having been made. Upon the receipt of such notice, and the payment of all dues, a member may be dimitted, by making application at any stated communication of his lodge."

Subsequently this amendment, "after considerable discussion," was voted upon and "was lost."

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Bro. R. H. Taylor, for the committee, gives us one of his comprehensive and excellent reports. He reviews the proceedings of thirty-five Grand Lodges, and we think has added to his reputation as a skilful and discriminating reporter.

The proceedings of Alabama for 1876—the 56th annual report—are

elaborately reviewed, quoting from and commending the annual address, the report of committee on suspension, expulsion and appeals, etc., of that communication (1876.) We quote from his "conclusion" the following paragraph:

The masonic questions most discussed (reference to which will be found throughout our report) have been—1st, *The right of dimit.* It seems to be the opinion of a majority that a brother clear upon the books of his lodge, and against whom there are no charges, has the *absolute* right to be dimitted. This opinion accords with our constitutional provision upon the subject. 2d, *Diplomas.* Is it, or not, masonic to require a visiting brother to present a diploma? Opinions are divided; ours is that the best diploma a brother can possess is a correct knowledge of the *essentials* of the work and ritual of Freemasonry. Meantime, however, inasmuch as the regulations of a number of Grand Lodges require the production of a diploma, brothers in this jurisdiction contemplating a visit to any other jurisdiction should obtain a Grand Lodge diploma from our Grand Secretary. 3d, *The powers of Grand Representatives.* It will be noticed that in the addresses of several Grand Masters, as well as in reports, it has been suggested that the representatives from one Grand Lodge to another be charged with some specific *duties*, as well as the *honor* of such representatiation. We have no suggestion to offer at this time; let the matter be more thoroughly discussed, and perhaps some sort of system may be arrived at all around the circle.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Merrill P. Freeman... .....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Samuel W. Chubbuck (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

The tenth annual communication of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick convened at the City of Saint Johns, Wednesday, September 26th, A. D. 1877.

The proceedings submitted to us in the well-arranged report of Bro. Grand Secretary Bunting are interesting, and we regret that our feeble condition as to health forces us to pass over matter contained therein which would, under more favorable conditions, command a more elaborate review.

Grand Master M. W. Robert T. Clinch delivered an excellent annual address, from which we extract his allusions to the great calamity that destroyed their "city and Temple," viz:

"On the twentieth day of June last, the scourge of fire laid in ashes three-fourths of our city, and we stood appalled at the greatness of the disaster which, for a time, seemed to overwhelm every hope. But the

very magnitude of the calamity gave the first incentive to exertion, as from all directions were borne in upon us help for the present and encouragement for the future. Our deep distress awoke the kindliest sympathy, and former rivalries were forgotten, and sectional differences disappeared, as from every part of the Dominion, from sister provinces, from the United States, and from the mother country, substantial help and cordial sympathy awoke us to effort, and the very few months that have elapsed witness exertion happily made to restore our trade and rebuild our desolated homes.

"In this great distress our beloved fraternity had its full share, the city lodges having, with their place of meeting, lost all their regalia and masonic property. Through the forethought of the V. W., the Grand Secretary, the regalia of Grand Lodge was saved from destruction, but the valuable library and other property of the Grand Lodge were destroyed. Among the individual sufferers, in a few hours rendered homeless and destitute, were many members of the fraternity. A General Masonic Board of Relief was immediately organized; liberal contributions were received from sister Grand Lodges and other Masonic bodies, and from sympathizing brethren, and thus we were enabled to afford some present assistance to those most in need of help. The full particulars of this organization, and of the various contributions, will be laid before you, and Grand Lodge will make suitable record of the generous assistance and fraternal sympathy which in this time of our deep distress have gladdened our hearts and enabled us to afford substantial relief to our suffering brethren."

The report of the Grand Secretary, as also that of the Board of General purposes, intimate a fair degree of prosperity and a hopeful determination as rapidly as possible to repair the losses sustained in the great fire.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Robert T. Clinch (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. William F. Bunting (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The New Hampshire report for 1877 (including those of the semi-annual communication held December 27, 1876) gives the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of that State at its annual grand communication held in Concord, Wednesday, May 16, A. L. 5877.

Present, M. W. Grand Master John J. Bell, with all Grand Officers at their stations, and the representatives of 51 constituent Lodges.

The Grand Master delivered an appropriate annual address, and we observe that in his evidently close scrutiny of the condition of his Lodges, some discoveries were made indicating a very general non-conformity of

Lodge by-laws to the constitution of the Grand Lodge. He says of these irregular by-laws, that—

"In one case these conflicting provisions were no less than nine in number, and in one of the old Masonic districts scarcely a Lodge but had from five to seven such provisions. In other parts of the State the number is less, but still much greater than it should be. Of course no approval of the Grand Lodge could make such provisions valid, as the Grand Lodge cannot change the provisions of its constitution in this way, but that approval misleads the brethren and leads to confusion."

We quote several of his decisions as of interest to the Craft generally:

"That a ballot for advancement is not upon proficiency merely, but upon general fitness for Masonic membership, and carries with it all the consequences which follows the original ballot.

"Masons should appear in public, *as such*, for the performance of some Masonic work and for no other purpose.

"In the absence of any constitutional provision, a candidate should present himself for initiation, or for the degrees, within a reasonable time. What is a reasonable time is a matter for the Master to determine, under all the circumstances of the case. It should be such that there should be no suspicion of any change in him or in his relations to the Lodge. If for any cause there is reason for supposing that a ballot now would result differently he should present a new petition."

We note the following proposed amendment of the constitution as likely, if adopted, to work mischief in the Lodges which may by it be forced to receive discordant material, or, at least, unwelcome members, viz:

"Brother Nathaniel Cunmer proposed that section 140 of Article 17 of the Grand Constitution be amended by striking out the word 'not' in the fourth line, and also the last four words of said section, 'without its unanimous consent,' so that said section shall read, 'Whenever the Grand Lodge shall reverse or abrogate the decision of a particular Lodge suspending or expelling a brother, and shall restore him to the benefits and privileges of Masonry, he shall, thereby, be restored to membership within the body from which he was suspended or expelled.'"

It were well to make haste slowly in adopting a measure of such doubtful expediency, we think.

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

Brother Joseph E. Bennett, chairman, makes an elaborate and able report on correspondence, of 100 pages.

He reviews the proceedings of Alabama for 1876—report of our 56th annual communication—with candor and fairness, noting especially portions of Grand Master Pillans' annual address, and quoting approvingly the closing paragraphs of Bro. Titcomb's report of that year.

He says of our report on correspondence: "New Hampshire seems to have been passed;" but not willingly, my brother, for we think we expressed our regret at the absence of her reports from our list. Our regret now is that our feebleness prevents a more perfect review of the proceedings before us.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. John J. Bell (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. John A. Harris (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

NEW JERSEY.

We have before us the interesting volume containing the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of New Jersey at its ninety-first grand annual communication, held at Trenton Wednesday and Thursday, January 16th and 17th, A. D. 1878, and regret (for reasons heretofore stated) our inability to give them a review suited to their merits.

The frontispiece is adorned with an excellent engraving representing the features of P. G. Master Daniel B. Bowen, initiated May, 1817. We had in reading his admirable address of 1876, responsive to the presentation of a jewel by the Grand Lodge, acquired a very favorable knowledge of his thought characteristics, and are glad through this likeness to know also the face and lineaments of this venerable and worthy brother.

The Grand Lodge was opened by M. W. Grand Master Marshal B. Smith, representatives of a quorum of Lodges being present.

The Grand Master's address is a good and comprehensive message, and we quote the passages most likely to interest our reader, as follows:

A VETERAN PROMOTED.

"We have been reminded during the year that from the earthly chain of brotherhood the links may fall as the hand of God touches them. Some of the members of this Grand Lodge have been called to stand face to face with those eternal verities which we can only see 'as through a glass, darkly.'

"Our venerable brother R. W Haley Fisk, Past Deputy Grand Master, died in Brooklyn, New York, September 4, 1877, in the eighty-sixth year of his age, having been a member of the Masonic Fraternity *sixty-four years*. Brother Fisk was born at Cumberland Hill, Rhode Island, February 26, 1792, and removed to Patterson, New Jersey in 1812. By occupation a machinist, he became identified with the development of industrial interests in this State. He constructed the first power lathes ever made in New Jersey, and assisted Robert Fulton in building the famous pioneer steamboat "Clermont." He removed to New Brunswick, N. J., in

1821, where, beside being actively engaged in business, he held various civil offices, and was a justice of the peace for twenty-five years. He was made a Mason in Rhode Island, in 1813."

DECISIONS.

"*Seven* being the number required in order to obtain or hold a Lodge Warrant, a Lodge cannot legally be opened for the transaction of business or for work, until seven Master Masons—including a brother qualified to preside—are present. [*This decision was withdrawn by the Grand Master.*]

"No officer of a Lodge, who has been regularly installed, can be suspended for non-payment of dues until the expiration of the term for which he was elected or appointed.

"Any by-law of a Lodge requiring a brother to return his traveling certificate, or 'deposit it on the pedestal,' prior to taking his seat as a member, is null and void. The 'certificate' must be returned, but membership can only be affected by death, dimission, suspension, expulsion, or the dissolution of the Lodge.

"The rejection of a Master Mason who applies for affiliation, neither affects the Masonic standing of the applicant, nor confers upon the Lodge that rejects him the power to bar his application elsewhere. It is not proper in such cases to give notice of the rejection to other Lodges.

"A petition, or a report thereon, has been formally 'presented to the Lodge' when it has been read in open Lodge.

"The report of an investigating committee, to be regular and valid, must have appended to it the actual signatures of a majority of the committee.

"When a Lodge surrenders its warrant and becomes extinct, its members cannot affiliate without certificates from the Grand Lodge. For a like reason, candidates who have been rejected in such Lodge cannot apply to any Lodge for initiation without the consent of the Grand Lodge, if in session, or of the Grand Master in the interim.

"The Trustees of a Lodge may be incorporated, and thus exclude from courts of law all matters except those of finance; but the incorporation of Lodges makes them practically independent of this Grand Lodge, and is unmasonic, and hereby prohibited.

"The Tyler of a Lodge should be appointed by the worshipful Master, not elected by the Lodge. He is not necessarily a member of the Lodge; an *elective* officer must be a member.

"The Tyler, when a member of the Lodge, is entitled to cast his ballot on all occasions. He cannot be deprived of this right on account of his official duties."

OTHER JURISDICTIONS.

"Nothing that I am aware of has occurred during the year to disturb our harmonious relations with other Grand Lodges. A few cases of conflict of jurisdiction are in process of adjustment. Some of these cases have been greatly complicated by voluminous correspondence between the Lodges, prior to laying the subject before the Grand Masters of the

respective jurisdictions, leaving to those "*much lettered*" officials the task of untying a Gordian knot. Fortunately the ancient implement has generally proved available in such emergencies.

CONCLUSION.

"The official services and opinions of another Masonic year have now been laid before you. In the honorable and responsible office to which you have twice elected me, it has been my aim to maintain the Ancient Landmarks, and to preserve unimpaired the dignity and authority of the Grand Lodge. With a few exceptions, I have reason to congratulate you on the loyalty, unity, moral character, and prosperity of the Craft in New Jersey. If my work shall receive your approval, the only end I have had in view will have been reached. Than this no higher Masonic reward need be desired, either by myself or by the brother who may be chosen to succeed me in office.

"I bid you welcome to our annual communication. There are many old and familiar faces; there are many who come for the first time to fill the ranks as the roll-call tells of the brave and true who have fallen.

"We are here not only for legislative purposes, but to guard the trust left to us by the Masonic fathers. That trust is a system animated by the spirit of universal benevolence, unmarred by the strifes of sect or party; its watchword is human brotherhood, its mission peace and love. While claiming no divine origin, it builds upon the foundation truth that the 'Lord reigneth;' atheism and unbelief are therefore alien to its system."

One hundred and forty-six chartered Lodges and one U. D. are at work under the jurisdiction of New Jersey.

THE REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Owes its excellence of matter and judicious criticisms to the evidently practiced pen of Bro. James A Norton.

He reviews with care and discrimination the proceedings of fifty-two Grand Lodges, among which those of Alabama for 1876—56th annual communication—are included.

We thank Bro. Norton for a very full and considerate notice of the doings of Alabama for that year, as well as for the pleasant word of encouragement and compliment to the writer. "It is sweet to know" that one may be called "eloquent" when penning the thoughts born of love and devotion to a holy cause, however diffidently and laboriously he may have labored to adjust his limping rhetoric to the dignity of the subject discussed.

We give the concluding sentences of his report:

"Thus closes our review for the year 1877-8. It has not been accomplished without considerable labor, nor, on the other hand, without a corresponding reward.

"We have had the pleasure of reading the productions of first-class pens, of steady and argumentative writers—the productions of minds thoroughly imbued with the letter and spirit of Masonry. We think the Fraternity has reason to be proud of its corps of writers on Foreign Correspondence; taken as a whole, in ability, it will favorably compare with any corps in any department of literature, and in *spirit* it is far superior to any that we know of. Except an occasional grandiloquent or spread-eagle "conclusion," we greatly admire the productions of our brethren of the Committees on Foreign Correspondence.

"In the department of Grand Master's addresses, etc., the ability is no less marked, all of which proves that Masonry is putting her best men to the front. So mote it *ever* be."

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Marshall B. Smith (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Joseph H. Hough (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

NEW YORK.

The New York Reports are always welcome because of their ample store of good Masonic literature and labor.

The volume now before us is "not a whit" behind its predecessors in the quality and quantity of the interesting matter with which its every deliverance abounds, from the annual address of the Grand Master, through the voluminous reports of its Grand Officers and Committees, to that work of crowning excellence, the report on correspondence.

The report under consideration gives the proceedings of the ninety-seventh annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of New York, held June 4th, A. D. 1878, in the city of New York.

Present, M. W. Grand Master Joseph J. Couch, Grand Officers, twenty-seven Deputy Grand Masters, and the representatives of 666 (of the 718) constituent Lodges.

Truly a large assemblage of active and earnest Craftsmen!

The Grand Master's annual address is a long and, to our thinking, able and judicious message, from which we quote such portions as our space will permit, viz:

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

In all essential particulars, our foreign relations remain unchanged. I learn, however, through our representatives, that misapprehension exists, to a considerable extent, in some of the European Grand Lodges, regarding the true force and effect to be given to the reports of our committee on foreign correspondence. It appears that, prior to the opening of the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia, a committee of the Grand Lodge

of Pennsylvania made a lengthy report upon the relations of that body with other Grand Lodges, concluding with certain specific regulations for the guidance of the Pennsylvania lodges in the reception of visitors from other jurisdictions. This report was reviewed by our committee on foreign correspondence, and some of its positions strongly approved. The bodies composing the German Grand Lodge Diet felt themselves aggrieved by the action of their brethren in Pennsylvania, and when the commendatory report of our committee reached them, the impression arose that the Grand Lodge of New York had assumed the same attitude toward them as that taken by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. Our representative near the Grand Lodge of Saxony, R. W. Bro. von Mensch, promptly combatted this erroneous impression, and pointed out the fact that this Grand Lodge had taken no action whatever upon the matter. In support of our distinguished representative, I submit for your consideration the statement: That the reports of the committee on foreign correspondence are considered by us as matter of information only; that the brethren who make these reports are distinctly understood to give us, in a condensed form, the opinions and acts of Grand Lodges in correspondence with us, and also such individual comments thereon as they may deem wise; that the publication of these reports in our transactions is solely for the information of the brethren; that, in merely accepting and publishing these reports, the Grand Lodge does not undertake to pass judgment upon their contents; that, in fact, these reports cannot have any official or binding character, except when the Grand Lodge shall give such force and effect to the whole, or any portion thereof, by special resolution or other express enactment.

In alluding to "proposed amendments to the constitution and statutes" (some of which he opposes, because they trench upon the rights of lodges), he gives expression to some very just and instructive views on masonic jurisprudence, as follows:

In this connection, the official experience of the past year prompts me to add a few words by way of suggestion to those who seek for simplicity in the administration of our local law. At the outset, it is important to discriminate between Masonic symbolism and Masonic government; between the ideal relations of the Lodge, the Master, and the Grand Master, in the one, and their actual relations in the other; between the landmarks, legends and traditions that belong to the one, and the constitution, statutes and general regulations that belong to the other. Make this discrimination clear and distinct. Eliminate from the problem all that pertains to symbolism, and then fix attention exclusively upon the written law. In our theory of Masonic government, the first proposition is, that all powers are derived solely from the consent of the governed, and that such consent is given in the terms and provisions of the written constitution, which thus becomes the fundamental law. This proposition has been considred argumentatively already. It has also received significant practical confirmation in the recent actions of the Masons of this jurisdiction. In 1872, a revised constitution was carefully prepared and handed down from the Grand East for approval. That instrument was supported by able and distinguished brethren, who possessed in large measure the confidence of the Fraternity; and yet the method of prepara-

tion and submission effectually sealed its fate. The seventy or eighty thousand Masons of New York, through their chosen representatives, asserted and maintained their sovereignty. The method of preparation was absolutely reversed.

A convention, composed of delegates chosen by the Fraternity, was charged with the preliminary work of revision; and every step, up to the final adoption, was so ordered as to make our present constitution, beyond all question, the parmount law of this jurisdiction; so ordained and established by the sovereign will and pleasure of the Fraternity. This being so, it follows that all legislation by the Grand Lodge must conform to this constitution, or be of no effect; and also, that all governmental acts of the Grand Master must be done under provision of established law. We are are now prepared intelligently to advise brethren anxious to know the law, that they need not befog their minds with vague and uncertain speculations about ancient landmarks, for these belong to another department of Masonic research; that there is no occasion to search for any law or decision made prior to June, 1873, for all such have been repealed; that it is useless to petition the Grand Master for dispensations to set aside the law, unless the law itself gives him the power, for he, too, must obey the law; that, in point of fact, the entire law of this jurisdiction is comprised in our present constitution, and such acts of the Grand Lodge as have been passed since its adoption, and in conformity with its provisions; and further, that the true intent of all this revision is to promote a more perfect and general understanding of our rules and regulations, and to enable the brethren throughout the State to conduct their affairs in accordance with established laws, without the necessity of constantly applying to the Grand Master for preliminary decisions or special dispensations.

CONCLUSION.

"Taking this occasion to thank those brethren who have been officially associated with me during the past year, for their valuable support of my administration, I pass on to a conclusion.

"In this hall, now becoming familiar as the place for annual meetings, more than seven hundred Lodges are this day represented. Here we legislate for over one hundred thousand Masons residing in the State. Our laws have no sanction of physical force. Their execution depends solely upon the loyal sentiment of the Craft. We are, therefore, directly concerned with those moral principles and forces which give significance to all our Masonic labors.

"While it is assumed that we come with manly purpose to the deliberations of this Grand Lodge, it is also important that we carry from this place to our respective homes such thoughts and influences as shall nobly inspire the brethren whom we represent. A just regard for our own good name and consistent standing in this enlightened community makes the duty of the hour perfectly clear.

"Some years ago we severed our connection with the Grand Orient of France, because of their persistent infringement of the jurisdiction of an American Grand Lodge. The matter in issue at that time was purely governmental. Since then strange reports have reached us, from time to

time, of departures from the traditions and customs of the Fraternity; until finally the information comes that they now profess to practice a Masonry that ignores the existence of God. This raises the question, whether such rite can truthfully be denominated Masonic. In prompt reply to this question, let us from the abundant material at hand take, for example, the familiar symbol of the burning bush, with its impressive story as related in the Old Hebrew Bible. In simplicity of faith, one interprets the record literally; another, differently constituted, sees in it a beautiful metaphor, which the imagination expands to cosmical proportions; and behold the fiery light of the morning sun fills the tree tops of the eastern hills with a flame of glory. Whether the pastoral or cosmical interpretation be adopted, the lesson is the same. In either, there is present to the imagination an impenetrable mystery, and out of that mystery, to the reverential beholder, there comes the voice of God. * *

Bro. Grand Secretary, R. W. James M. Austin, among other well-timed suggestions, speaks thus deprecatingly of the *cheap dues* system, viz:

"The position I have held for so long a time has probably given me better opportunities, than very many have had, of observing the different working of the Lodges, uspecially as relates to the management of their financial affairs. I trust, therefore, that I shall be pardoned for alluding at this time to one or two features in the management of the financial concerns of many Lodges, which tend largely to hinder their prosperity and usefulness.

"It is a very common custom with brethren about to organize a new Lodge, to start out with the supposition that they can certainly depend upon having a certain number of initiations during each year, and they calculate that the fees to be received from these initiations will nearly, if not quite, pay all the expenses of the Lodge. Consequently they place the annual dues of members at a very low figure; and very many here present would be surprised to learn at how low a figure the dues of some Lodges were placed. Starting in this way, all goes well for a time, while the material to be worked upon is plenty. But sooner or later, the time comes when candidates, from some cause or other, cease to present themselves, and the Lodge very soon becomes impecunious. There is a lack of funds to pay the ordinary expenses. The members begin to lose their interest in the Lodge. A difficulty is found to exist in increasing the annual dues; and, finally, the Lodge, by force of circumstances, is compelled to surrender the Warrant, or else have it taken from them. I respectfully submit that the true course is, to place the dues of members sufficiently high to enable the Lodge to continue its existence and pay all just claims, even if not a single initiation should take place during the year. Thus the temptation to accept 'material unfit for use,' for the sake of fees to be received, will be avoided.

"Another feature in the management of the financial affairs of very many Lodges, is the little attention which is paid to the collection of Lodge dues."

He also gives a tabular statement, which we copy, of the debt, compared with 1877. This debt, we may here state, is now in a great measure provided for by the 50 cents per capita assessments authorized by an amendment to the constitution, finally adopted at this communication.

Comparison of indebtedness of the Fund and its reduction from May 1, 1877, to June 1, 1878:

STATEMENT.

May 1, 1877, Principal of debt	$778,046 20	
Accrued interest	21,489 69	
	$799,535 89	
Less rent due	$22,571 42	
Cash on hand	2,139 79	
	$ 14,711 21	
		$774,824 68
June 1, 1878, Principal of debt	$738,860 00	
Accrued interest	23,151 98	
	$762,011 98	
Less rent due	$12,709 61	
Cash on hand	4,789 28	
	$ 17,498 80	
	$744,513 09	
Showing a reduction of indebtness of Fund		$30,311 59

We are reminded, in glancing over the mortuary tablets of this report (seven in all), of the much lamented death of R. W. (Sir) Orrin Welch, famed far and near as a Craftsman skilled in the work and literature of Masonry. With the expression of high appreciation of his worth, and deep regret at his loss, we repeat with emphasis the beautiful legend of his memorial tablet, "Gently the fetters fall when good men die."

THE REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Bro. John W. Simons, with his characteristic ability and graceful diction, reviews in this report the proceedings of fifty-two American Grand Lodges, and those of all accessible Foreign Grand Bodies. It is exceedingly pleasant and instructive to read after Bro. S., and we look to his reports always for the fullest and most reliable foreign data.

The Alabama report for 1877—57th annual—is reviewed and considerately criticised.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Edmund L. Judson.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. James M. Austin (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina convened its ninety-first annual communication in the city of Raleigh December 4, A. D. 1877. Present, M. W. Grand Master Horace M. Munson, with the representatives of a quorum of constituent Lodges, and several Past Grand Masters.

We gather from the several reports of Grand Officers that the Craft in this jurisdiction are prospering, both financially and in the "works and ways of Masonry."

The Grand Master's annual address is concise and well written. We quote a few paragraphs illustrating his style and presenting views worthy of consideration, viz:

We now stand upon the threshold of a new masonic year. The past is valuable only for the experience it brings and the lessons it teaches. By it we are warned of the rocks upon which, it may be, our happiness was nearly wrecked, and are taught to avoid those quicksands upon which, it may be, our moral character nearly foundered. Masonry, we are taught, is a progressive science, but our experience teaches that with some its spirit may be too greatly progressive. Too often we meet with those who, conscious of superior knowledge above their fellows, seek offensively to demonstrate their ideas of Masonic reform, as they bear about high-sounding titles, and adorn their persons with many emblems of Masonic greatness. Such persons do harm to Masonry, because, being its acknowledged votaries, the world judges by what it sees and hears. When our sensibilities are thus intruded upon, we are reminded of the man who thought

As a step in the way of reform,
(The stupid, stupid ass,)
To take the sun from off his throne,
And light the world with gas!

Our Masonry teaches a meek and quiet spirit; charity for all unenlightened brethren; a modest seeking to overcome, it may be, honest error, an exemplification in our walk and conversation of that friendship—love and truth, so beautifully taught in our rituals; an earnest, hearty, continued effort, without ostentation, to benefit the human race, a looking after and alleviating distress; a thoughtful care of orphan children; a diligence in our respective callings; a liberal benevolence; all these go to make up an unselfish, true and beautiful Masonic character.

The Grand Master announces in appropriate and feeling terms the recent death of

P. G. MASTER WILLIAM GEDDY HILL.

A special communication of the Grand Lodge was assembled May 6th, 1877, to "bury the body" and mark their respect for the character of the deceased.

We are pleased to find in the report of the Superintendent of the Orphan Asylum that that institution, of which we have heretofore expressed our anxiety, as well as earnest desire for its success, is better sustained than in former years, and bids fair to realize the expectations of its founders. God prosper the good work, is our prayer.

No general report on correspondence.

STATISTICS OF LODGES.

Number of Lodges represented at annual communication 1877		126
" " making returns in the year 1877		218
" " from which no returns were rtceived		19
" " at work		237
" chartered Lodges gone out of existence		123
Number of Lodges formerly and at present existing		360

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Horace H. Munson.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Donald W. Bain (re-elected).....Grand Secretary

PENNSYLVANIA.

We have the report of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for 1877, giving abstract of the proceedings of three quarterly communications held severally June 6th, September 5th, and December 5th, and also of the grand annual communication held December 27th of that year, all convened at Philadelphia and presided over by M. W. Robert C. Clark, Grand Master.

The address of the Grand Master is dignified and able. Speaking of the propriety of the advance by gradual steps from the SOUTH, through the WEST, to the GRAND EAST, as a necessary preparation for the important duties of that responsible and honorable position, he closes his remarks on that topic as follows:

"No one should solicit the favor of the Craft for the South. The selection should anticipate the election, so that the qualifications alone which are essential should have been made conspicuous in the brother on whom the honor is voluntarily bestowed. I may at this time be permitted to warn the fraternity against the almost imperceptible approach of influences which, from the force of associations, if not prevented by the highest human wisdom, may possibly so weaken the fundamental and primary principles on which the Grand Lodge rests for her honor, dignity and Masonic supremacy, as to become a serious disaster to the whole institution."

Dealing thus a well-aimed and effective blow at the *office-seekers* in the Fraternity.

We are glad to note the evidences in the proceedings, and the assurances of the Grand Officers, that the Grand Lodge is prospering financially and generally.

Pennsylvania certainly occupies a proud eminence among the Craft as a judicious and watchful conservator of the true principles, dignity, and mission of Masonry, however much some restless or thoughtless critics may, in times past, have misconceived or misrepresented her tenacious adherence to the requirements of law and landmark.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Elicits a characteristic report from Bro. Richard Vaux, P. G. M., in which he reviews the proceedings of forty-three Grand Lodges, among which those of Alabama for 1876 are mentioned.

We have read with interest Bro. Vaux introductory remarks, in which, after greeting the Craft of the United States with assurances of good will and brotherhood, he cautions of the necessity for watchfulness in avoiding the restless spirit of innovation now prevalent, and of guarding the outer door of the Temple against the "disturbers of the harmony, repose and integrity of the principles of the brotherhood." His panacea against infidelity, and all confusion, not excepting negro or (so-called) colored Masonry, is adherence to the LANDMARKS.

In this branch of his report his remarks are both impressive and instructive; to us his words of wisdom and warning have been lessons of prudence and profit.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. James Madison Porter.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. John Thompson (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

QUEBEC.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Quebec held its annual grand communication for 1878, at Montreal, September 25th, A. L. 5878, of the proceedings of which we have only a pamphlet copy of the annual address of M. W. Grand Master Melbourne M. Tait.

The address acknowledges the reception of a circular communication from the M. W. Grand Orient of Spain, inviting correspondence, to which a courteous reply was returned. A similar overture from the Grand Orient

of Spain was addressed to and received by the M. W. Grand Master of Alabama.

He alludes to the fact that the committee on foreign correspondence had made a report "which embodies a careful review of the proceedings of numerous Grand Bodies;" and we regret that this report, and other details of the proceedigs, have failed to reach us.

After alluding to a few matters of local interest, the Grand Master devotes the remainder of his message to an elaborate and very able discussion of the pending controversy with the Grand Lodge of Scotland. We cannot reproduce his arguments on this topic, but copy below the proclamation previously issued by the Grand Master of Quebec, notifying the Masonic public of the material facts in the case, as sufficiently explanatory, for the present at least, of this regretable controversy, viz:

PROCLAMATION.

To all Brethren in obedience to the M. W. the Grand Lodge of Quebec, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons:

Whereas, the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Scotland has granted warrants to form two lodges of Masons at Montreal, in the Province of Quebec, one to be called "King Solomon, No. 622," and the other "Argyle, No. 625;" and

Whereas, it has been officially announced that the said lodges are to be erected, constituted and consecrated by virtue of such warrants, and their officers to be installed on the 24th day of June, instant; and

Whereas, by such action, the Grand Lodge of Scotland has unjustifiably and unlawfully invaded the territory and jurisdiction of "The Grand Lodge of Quebec, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons," in violation of the laws and traditions of the Fraternity affecting the establishment and sovereignty of Grand Lodges, and in a manner calculated to interfere most seriously with the welfare and harmony of the craft in the said Province; and

Whereas, such action on the part of the Grand Lodge of Scotland has occurred after unconditional recognition by her of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, as having and exercising supreme Masonic jurisdiction in said Province, which recognition she subsequently withdrew without just or lawful cause:

Be it, therefore, known unto you all, that in vindication of the sovereignty of "The Grand Lodge of Quebec, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons," and of the inherent rights and prerogative of our ancient, honorable and loyal fraternity, and in justice to all those Grand Lodges whose recognition has been extended to her—I, therefore, in virtue of the authority vested in me as Grand Matser of "The Grand Lodge of Quebec, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons," declare and proclaim that the action of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, in granting said two warrants, was and is unfraternal and unconstitutional; that said warrants are irregular and illegal; that the lodges to be formed thereunder will be irregular and illegal lodges; that all Masons named in said warrants are now, and all persons becoming members of said lodges will be, irregular Masons: and

I hereby further declare and proclaim all Masonic intercourse to be suspended, and to cease, between this Grand Lodge, its subordinate lodges, and all brethren in obedience thereto, and the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and all lodges and brethren in obedience thereto; and all brethren of the Grand Lodge of Quebec are hereby commanded to hold no masonic intercourse with any brother in obedience to the said Grand Lodge of Scotland, as far as ancient Craft Masonry is concerned; and this edict shall be and remain in full force and effect until revoked by the Grand Master, or the Grand Lodge of Quebec;—and it is hereby further ordered, that due proclamation of this edict be made to all brethren in obedience to this Grand Lodge; of all which they will take due notice and govern themselves accordingly;—and also that the same be communicated to all regular Grand Lodges throughout the world.

Witness my hand and the seal of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, at Montreal, Province of Quebec, Dominion of Canada, this 21st day of June, 5878.

MELBOURNE M. TAIT, Grand Master.

NOTE.—Since the foregoing was prepared and reported, we have received a forcible *reply* to the complaint of this proclamation, from the pen of Dr. Geo. A. Baynes, "R. W. Provisional G. M. of Scottish Freemasonry at Quebec." It presents, to say the least of it, a very plausible defense of the action of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Scotland in the premises, and its statements cannot be ignored in any candid review of this controversy. We shall comment upon this reply of R. W. Bro. Baynes in our next report, and regret that it cannot be more fully noticed now.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of South Carolina (claimed in the proceedings as the 101st) for 1877, was held at Charleston on Tuesday, December 11th, 5877.

Present, M. W. Grand Master Wilmot G. DeSaussure, with the grand officers, deputy grand masters, and the representatives of 158 constitnent lodges. The business of the session was quickly dispatched, in the proverbially quiet and business-like manner of that Grand Body.

We observe indications of increasing financial prosperity and craftman skill in the work of the lodge. One question of historical fact seems to have given pause to their preparation for a grand centennial celebration of the organization of the Grand Lodge. The Grand Orator, P. G. Master Wm. K. Blake, having, after accepting the appointment, declined delivering the centennial address, because of conscientious convictions, produced by a careful review of the subject, against the historical accuracy of the assumed date of the organization, 1777.

Grand Master DeSaussure, in his very able address, discusses this question at length, and we qote a portion of his remarks on this very interesting historical controversy, as well as some of the reasons assigned

by P. G. M. Blake for dissenting from the opinions of the Grand Lodge, as expressed by the Grand Master.

Grand Master DeSaussure says on this topic:

It is therefore proper that I should give the reasons which led me to the opinion expressed in such address, and in the correctness of which I still believe. In 1858 a committtee was raised by the Grand Lodge to prepare a history of Masonry in this State. In 1859, no report having been presented, it was ordered "That the Grand Lodge at this session will proceed to the election of an historiographer, whose duty it shall be to prepare a history of Masonry in South Carolina, to be submitted to the Grand Lodge when completed." At the election held under such resolution, Brother Albert G. Mackey was elected. The long connection of this brother with Masonry in South Carolina, the minute research which he had made into the materials necessary for the compilation of an accurate history, and the materials to which he could then obtain access, eminently fiitted him for the position. In 1860 he submitted to the Grand Lodge "The History of Freemasonry in South Carolina," which was accepted and ordered to be published by the Grand Lodge. Such book is, therefore, the authorized History of Freemasonry in South Carolina, and bears in itself the internal evidences of the great care with which it was prepared; and wherever the material is still preserved, by which to corroborate it, it is fully supported by such authorities Guided by the light of such authorized history, I find that at page 50 this eminently learned brother gives the following account. to wit:

"In the year 1777 the want of a Provincial Grand Master began to be felt, and the Grand Lodge, at a previous quarterly communication, having elected the Hon. Barnard Elliott, at the annual communication of this year he was duly installed as Grand Master of Masons in this State. This is the first time that the word 'State' is used in the place of that of 'Province,' which had formerly been employed. The political independence of the country, which only six months before had been declared at Philadelphia, was already beginning to produce its effect on the Masonic Society. The title of "Provincial Grand Lodge" does not afterwards appear to have been applied to the body, except during the year that Charleston was again subject, after its reduction, to the authority of the British Crown. These circumstances, and the fact that the Grand Lodge ignored the claim of Sir Egerton Leigh to be still the Provincial Grand Master, as recognized by his superior, the Grand Master of England, lead me irresistably to the conclusion that the existence of the Independent Grand Lodge of South Carolina is to be dated from the year 1777." And at page 51, under the head "Formation of the Independent Grand Lodge of South Carolina," he writes: "Thus was the Independent Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of South Ccrolina established in the year 1777, not by a dissolution of the old Provincial Grand Lodge, and the organization by new lodges of a superintending power, but by a simple resolution of the Provincial Grand Lodge to throw off its provincial and subordinate character, by a refusal to recognize any longer the authority of the deputation which had been granted to Sir Egerton Leigh by the Duke of Beaufort, when the latter was the presiding officer of the Grand Lodge of England, and by the

election of a Grand Master, who was installed as 'the Grand Master of the Masons of the State.'" * * * * * *

P. G. Master Blake, in giving his reasons for declining the position of centennial orator, gives some important information derived from Bro. Mackey's history, as well as from his more recently expressed opinions, which tends to rebut the above conclusions, viz:

Again he says: "Your offer to unite with your brethren in the celebration of the organization of the Independent Grand Lodge in 1777, as an historical fact, was a generous one; but I am rejoiced that it was not accepted, for you could not have been an eulogist of the event commemorated. You could not have spoken of the formation of the Independent Grand Lodge without referring to its speedy suicide under political pressure. But this is an unpleasant subject, and for that reason I did not discuss it in my history; and you would have found it unpleasant to refer to it in your address. So that, on the whole, it is better for the honor of our forefathers that it should be left *sub silentio*."

From these declarations of Dr. Mackey, it must be conceded that when he states, on pages 50 and 51, that the existence of the Independent Grand Lodge of South Carolina is to be dated from 1777, he refers to the simple historical event that in 1777 the only Grand Lodge then existing in South Carolina threw off its provincial and assumed an independent character. For, on page 23, he states that this action was rescinded, and the very body which declared its independence in 1777, ignobly suicided in 1781, under the pressure of political force. This view is sustained, and may be verified by reference to the events as they are narrated in the history.

On page 50, we find that at the quarterly communication of the Provincial Grand Lodge held in 1777, Barnard Elliott was elected "Grand Master of Masons in this State," and the Provincial Grand Lodge, by resolution, assumed an independent character. But, on page 53, it is recorded that at the anniversary communication, held December 27, 1781, John Dess was unanimously elected "*Provisional Grand Master*," the members, either then or before (see page 52), by resolution, having determined "to ignore the proceedings by which an Independent Grand Lodge had been established in 1777, and to revive the existence of the Provincial Body." Now, the authority which created the Independent Grand Lodge in 1777, was competent to destroy it in 1781, and the history distinctly states that this was done, and in the same way—by resolution.

We find again that the Provincial Grand Lodge once more threw off its provincial and assumed an independent character, about 1783, under the new title (see page 53) of "The Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons of and for the State."

This act of the Provincial Grand Lodge, in 1783, is set forth as being entirely independent of that of 1777; and, while neither the Independent Grand Lodge of 1777, nor that of 1783, can justly claim to be the beginning of the present Grand Lodge, yet, of the two, that of 1783 is entitled to the greater credit.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Brother Charles Inglesby, R. W. Grand Secretary, gives us one of his very interesting and acceptable reports on correspondence, including a candid and fair review of the proceedings of most of the Grand Lodges of the United States. He gives the report of Alabama for 1876—the 56th annual communication—due consideration and fraternal greeting. Here both space and time bid us away to other jurisdictions; but before we go, Bro. Inglesby, "here's a health to thee."

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Beaufort W. Ball. .....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Charles Inglesby (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

TENNESSEE.

We have before us the minutes of the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Tennessee, at its sixty-fourth grand annual communication, held in Nashville, Monday November 12th, A. D. 1877.

Present, M. W. Elihu Edmundson, Grand Master, all Grand Officers at their stations, with a quorum of constituent members, including Past Grand Officers, Past Masters, and representatives of subordinate Lodges.

The session appears to have been harmonious, and the work was dispatched rapidly, closing on the morning of the 14th November.

We notice regretfully that our brethren of Tennessee appear to be a little embarrassed in the matter of finances, but hope this difficulty has already vanished and become only a memory of past and conquered impediments to their onward march.

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances appear to have had a full share of labor, as they report upon twenty cases of Appeal, and we know well how much of close study and disagreeable duty is involved in such decisions.

Tennessee has 404 chartered Lodges and 5 working U. D.

THE GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS

Is well written and suggestive. We do not exactly see the necessity or appropriateness of the following allusions to external strife, but possibly his remarks are more *apropos* locally than we imagine. He says:

"To our 'time-honored institution' the year just passed has revealed nothing specially new, but to the political world it has been fruitful of

events. Masonry has gone on the even tenor of her way, 'turning neither to the right nor left' in her mission of charity and brotherly love. When our predecessors met here twelve months ago, our country had just emerged from an active, exciting and acrimonious political contest, in which the two great political parties had been for several months arrayed one against the other, and while no deadly or hostile weapons had been used, the English vocabulary had been pretty well exhausted in the use of unpleasant and offensive epithets. Many of our brotherhood who were assembled here had been active participants in that contest, and although its excitement was then at its acme, yet within these walls all was peaceful and harmonious; no bitterness, dissension, or discord was seen here—the political differences were left without; we met then as we meet now, upon the level and as brothers. However great our religious and political differences outside, within these walls and those of our Subordinate Lodges they are unknown. One of the cardinal principles of our Order, instilled in the mind of the novice at the very threshold is, that Masonry is not to interfere with our politics or religion, and is never to be discussed at our meetings, and this alone would commend it favorably to the world, especially at a time when party spirit and religious fanaticism run high. Now, I am gratified to say there is less of this in our broad and favored land than there has been for a very long time; and from one extreme to the other, we have politically as well as Masonically a country free, peaceful and harmonious—no sections or divisions, but united, indivisible, inseparable and happy."

He objects to dispensations for out of time work, and remarks that—

"The most discouraging feature in my whole correspondence has been the failure of Lodges to meet and elect officers at the time fixed by the by-laws, and in consequence dispensations were asked for special elections. I at first felt inclined to deny such Lodges the privilege of electing, letting the old officers hold over, but upon consideration I regarded a failure of electing a fault especially of the officers, and concluded it better to have them superseded at once, and I never afterward hesitated to grant a dispensation in such case. As already stated, the officers are at fault when their Lodge fails to meet at a time fixed by the by-laws, and more especially when an election is required to be held. I need not refer to the binding and solemn character of our obligation in 'standing to and abiding by' our by-laws, and this obligation is doubly so upon the Master. Is their remissness to have a meeting at this time due to a desire to hold over, or is it simply *indifference?* One or the other it must be, and I cannot decide which is the more culpable. A Lodge that is prosperous never fails to meet at the stated times, and almost universally a Lodge that has a *good, efficient*, and zealous Master is a prosperous one, and is rarely ever so without such a Master."

Of Foreign relations he says:

"I am gratified to be able to say that our relations with all the Grand Jurisdictions of the United States and Territories are pleasant and satisfactory. And so far as I know, the same may be said of all Grand Lodges with which we are in correspondence. With nearly all—domestic and foreign—there is established with this Grand Lodge a mutual system of representation. Massachusetts, I believe, is the only one that has not adopted it."

THE REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Is from the pen of Bro. Charles Stoddart Blackie, and reviews with excellent taste and judgment the proceedings of fifty-two Grand Lodges.

The report of Alabama for 1876—proceedings of the 56th annual communication—is carefully analyzed and fraternally considered. He dwells in his remarks principally upon Grand Master Pillans' address, which is noticed approvingly, but he does not approve Bro. Sayre's preamble declarations, in effect restricting Masonry to the Caucasian race, etc.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Americus V. Warr.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. John Frizzell (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

UTAH.

We have again pleasant news from our brethren of Utah, in Bro. Christopher Diehl, Grand Secretary's excellently arranged minutes of the proceedings of the sixth annual communication of their M. W. Grand Lodge, convened at Salt Lake City November 13th, A. D. 1877.

Present, M. W. Grand Master Joseph Milton Orr and a quorum of constituent members.

THE GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS

Discusses, very interestingly to us and creditably to himself, various questions of interest to the Craft in his jurisdiction, and pointedly rebukes the recent unmasonic acts of the Grand Orient of France. Our attention is especially directed to his concluding remarks, which we extract as elucidating the history, trials and successes of the Craft in Salt Lake, viz:

CONCLUSION.

"In concluding my remarks I have only a few words to say: Twelve years ago there were no Masonic Lodges in this Territory, and now, with a population of about 150,000 inhabitants, we have only six subordinate Lodges; but that is not discouraging to the brother who studies our history as Masons, and who understands the embarrassments with which we are surrounded; our prospects, however for the future are every day growing brighter. I have seen, during my residence in Utah, many bad men acquire power, and fall because of their evil acts. I have seen good men driven from the Territory by the intolerant rule of a fanatical priesthood, while others fell beneath the stroke of the assassin's dagger from which

the bravest men recoil. It is not so now; the time has passed when men are compelled to obey the edict—'do as you are told, and ask no questions.'

"We now have our railroads and telegraphs, and better than all, we have our mines, miners and mechanics—the one yielding wealth, the other power and influence—and to day our gulches and mountains, from Bear Lake to St. George, are giving up their hidden treasures to the honest miner, aided by giant powder, the pick, the shovel, and the drill. These men know their rights, and 'knowing dare maintain,' while the governing power of this great nation seems indifferent to the welfare and good morals of this Territory. Yet the Supreme Grand Master of the Universe, with that silent, unknown power peculiar to the 'Great I Am,' is doing the work of reform and bringing 'order out of chaos.' Truly,

" 'God moves in a mysterious way,
His wonders to perform,
He plants his footstept on the sea,
And rides upon the storm.'

"Right here I call to memory those beautiful sentiments expressed by a German poet more than three hundred years ago; they are worth repeating:

" 'Though the mills of the Gods grind slowly,
Yet they grind exceeding small;
Though with patience he stands waiting,
With exactness grinds he all.'

"Justice will prevail. It is said to be 'blind and slow,' yet it gropes its way along with unerring certainty, and will in time overtake us all. Justice is radical, it knows no compromise. This is the idea that controlled our brothers when they established the first Masonic Lodge in Utah.

"We say to the Priests of the Latter-day Church, you cannot enter our Lodge rooms—you surrender all to an unholy priesthood. You have heretofore sacrificed the sacred obligations of our beloved Order and we believe you would do the same again. Stand aside; we want none of you. Such a wound as you gave Masonry in Nauvoo is not easily healed, and no Latter-day Saint is, or can become a member of our order in this Jurisdiction."

The number of Lodges remains unchanged, six being the total. We observe, however, a healthy increase of members.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Bro. Christopher Diehl again presents the report on correspondence and gives us in it renewed evidence of his versatility of genius and capacity for labor; for as Grand Secretary, Grand Librarian and Reviewer, he is equally master of the situation.

This report reviews the proceedings of fifty-three American Grand Lodges, including Alabama report of 1876—56th annual—which is appropriately and courteously criticised.

He takes occasion to speak in terms of strong commendation of Bro. Titcomb's report of that year, and quotes in full his concluding remarks.

Bro. Diehl recommended, and the Grand Lodge ordered, the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Cuba, and the Grand Lodge of New Mexico was also recognized.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. John Shaw Scott.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Christopher Diehl (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

VIRGINIA.

We have the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Virginia at its annual communication held in Richmond, Monday, December 10, A. D. 1877. Present, M. W. Richard Parker, Grand Master, with a quorum of constituent members.

The pamphlet containing these minutes is adorned by a frontal page giving an excellent engraved likeness of R. W. John Dove, their venerable and deceased Grand Secretary.

We note no incident of the proceedings differing from their usual harmonious and expeditious performance of the important duties incident to the supervision of the work of the Craft in that jurisdiction.

The Grand Master's address is a well written and instructive message.

He cautions against the use of bad material, such as those induced by "sheer curiosity" or "motives of self advancement" to seek Masonic privileges.

He advises preparation for the celebration of their approaching centennial anniversary on October 13th, 1878.

Of the condition of the Craft he says:

"It is most pleasing to me to be able to report that peace and harmony almost without interruption have prevailed throughout this jurisdiction within the past year. The few instances in which complaints have been made have, I believe, all been adjusted. Lodges have been careful not to invade each other's jurisdiction, and where a doubt existed as to their rights and powers, it has been submitted to the proper Masonic authority and his decision has been cheerfully acquiesced in."

He makes the following decision, as to the duty of a Lodge waiving jurisdiction over its material in favor of another Lodge, which requires more than is generally deemed necessary, viz:

"That a Lodge cannot initiate a candidate who resides within the jurisdiction of another Lodge, without its consent given after he has been subjected, within the Lodge of his residence, to the ballot, and it has come

up clear. Its mere consent, without such ballot being had, does not entitle another Lodge to act upon his petition.

"Also, when leave has been properly granted by one Lodge to another to advance a brother, it should vote on his moral qualifications, although the Lodge entitled to jurisdiction of him had elected him to receive the degree. Such a course is reasonable, and proper for the protection of the Fraternity."

In closing his address, he expresses his intention of declining a re-election.

Virginia has 225 chartered and 2 U. D. Lodges under her jurisdiction.

THE REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE

Is by Bro. W. F. Drinkard, for committee, and is a very fair and discriminating review of the proceedings of some thirty-four American Grand Lodges. Alabama—Report for 1876—is acknowledged and briefly reviewed.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Beverly R. R. Wellford.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. William B. Isaacs (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

WASHINGTON.

We have the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of "Free and Accepted Masons of the Territory of Washington," convened in their twentieth grand annual communication at the city of Olympia, Wednesday, September 26th, A. D. 1877.

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form by M. W. Grand Master Platt A. Preston. Present, besides grand and past grand officers, the representatives of 19 of its 22 chartered lodges.

Our brethren of Washington appear, from the record before us, to be pursuing the even tenor of their way, giving due heed to the essentials of a well-ordered household, and gradually but steadily attaining to that *establishment* and prosperity which surely rewards the industrious and frugal craftsman. We note no question of general interest as having engaged the attention of the session, the work being mainly devoted to local concerns.

THE GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS

is well conceived and happily expressed, and we quote, as specially interesting, his remarks on

HOME AND FOREIGN RELATIONS.

Washington Territory is now assuming a position of considerable importance among the States and Territories of our country. Its many resources for industrial pursuits, its extensive bodies of beautiful timber, convenient harbors, rich soil, numerous water privileges, and many other substantial attractions, are now influencing thousands of people to seek permanent homes within her geographical boundaries. It is therefore of great importance to our common interests, that individuals and organized bodies do what they reasonably can to promote the best interests of our Territory. I think I shall not be accused of egotism, when I assume that Masons and Masonic bodies hold no second place among men and institutions. The proceedings of Grand Lodges in the various jurisdictions in the United States are probably read by a larger number of persons, and with greater interest, than are those of any other body of men. The committees in the various jurisdictions are continually collecting interesting matter, and are correcting errors which have gradually and inadvertently crept into the minds and practices of Masonic Lodges and individual Masons.

Our R. W. Bro. Mackey has well and truly said, "The committees on correspondence are the links which bind the Grand Lodges into one united whole in the pursuit of knowledge."

It is always gratifying to the true Mason to observe a rapid and healthy growth of our Order, and there are no possible means by which this knowledge can be brought to their observation so readily as by the perusal of the productions of these committees.

There is no motive so forcible to encourage and prompt men to diligence and activity in their calling, as the knowledge that the principles upon which their faith and practices are based are highly appreciated by great numbers, and are becoming a power in the land.

There are no available means by which these facts can be brought to the knowledge of the general Masonic reader so readily, as by the works of the different committees on foreign correspondence.

In these reports they present an epitome of the transactions of the varirions Grand Bodies throughout the country, the condition of Masonry in general, and to a great degree influence a universal harmony in work.

Bro. and R. W. Thos. Milburne Reed makes the report on

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE,

which is a judicious and creditable review of the work of 43 Grand Lodges; done, too, under the pressure of a Grand Lodge restriction as to space, and other difficulties, which are thus explained:

The committee have made but a partial review of the proceedings received from other Grand Lodges since our last annual communication. Two principal causes have operated to bring about this result. First, our knowledge was only presumptive, at best, that the Grand Lodge would feel justified at this session in removing the restrictions which, for the past three years, have greatly abridged the labor and confined the committee's report to almost the bare acknowlegement of proceedings from

other Grand Bodies, and the collation of statistics, etc. Secondly, while, in view of this contingency, the committee have really felt that they have no time to waste, or to spend for a useless purpose, yet, pressed with an urgency almost irresistible, from many brethren, "to go ahead with a general review and report," we made a commencement some two months ago. But, unfortunately, severe illness in our family, requiring personal attention to the sick, arrested our progress. This, with other pressing business engagements, has so completely occupied the time we had intended to have devoted to this labor, that we have come short of our purpose in the examination of the matter under review—a necessary contingent upon a good report.

Bro. Reed reviews at some length the proceedings of Alabama—56th annual communication—for 1876.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Robert Crosby Hill.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Thomas Milburne Reed (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

WEST VIRGINIA.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of West Virginia convened in its thirteenth annual communication, at Martinsburg, Tuesday, November 13th, A. D. 1877.

Present, M. W. G. Watkinson, Grand Master, with the representatives of 72 of the 76 constituent lodges of the jurisdiction.

THE GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS

Briefly rehearses the events of the year, and then devotes most of his space to "a few general reflections upon the principles and tenets of our Order." These reflections fill four of the six pages of the address. In closing these remarks, he says:

Finally, I notice that brothers should live in harmony with the teachings and tenets of our Order. It is not a religious society, and yet it teaches men to be moral and upright. The lectures of the different degrees are master-pieces of moral logic, and should be delivered and listened to in none other than the most solemn manner. Brethren, I fear that none of us live up to the moral standard of real Free Masonry; we are growing too much into a disposition to modernize its workings, and thus forget the landmarks laid out by the fathers who gave it to the world. Let us, as Masons, to-night pledge ourselves anew to stand by the grand old institution that has stood by us through the storms of forty centuries or more. Let us stand by the institution that has, from its origin, stood by the distressed of every land. * * * * *

The work of the session was devoted to matters of local legislation and interest.

A general but very brief report on

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Was made by R. W. Brother O. S. Long, Grand Secretary. We fear his *long* opening paragraph will cut him *short* both with the ladies and the critics.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. George Baird.....Grand Master.
R W. Bro. O. S. Long (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

WISCONSIN.

We have no little pleasure in welcoming the Wisconsin Report for 1877, the first visitant to our sanctum from that thriving jurisdiction which has for several years answered to our call for more light from the West. We do not know why it has been so, but, *certes*, for two successive years, at least, the voice of Wisconsin has not been heard in our wigwam, except in faint echoes of praise from other regions. We welcome this pleasant renewal of our former intimacy, and trust we shall not again be deprived of good tidings from the land where the white waters flow.

Our brethren of this jurisdiction held their thirty-third grand annual communication at Milwaukee on Tuesday, June 12th, A. L. 5877.

Present, M. W. Grand Master Jedd P. C. Cottrill, with a large attendance of lodge representatives and other constituents of the Grand Lodge.

Wisconsin has 188 chartered lodges (and 4 U. D.) within its jurisdiction, and the minutes before us indicate thrift, intelligence and industry as characteristic of the Grand Lodge and its subordinates. Few questions of a general interest were discussed or acted upon at this communication. The overture of the Grand Lodge of Cuba was referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, and at its suggestion action was postponed until the next annual assemblage.

THE GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS

Is an excellent executive message, reviewing the events of the year, and suggesting needed legislation. We quote his

DECISIONS.

"I have been frequently called upon, as I have no doubt every Grand Master will continue to be, for decisions. The constitution and standing rules have answered most of the questions, the general law of Masonry answered the remainder. I report the following among others made:

"For the fourth time in this Grand Lodge, upon its decisions in 1861, 1864 and 1875, that the loss of an eye renders the candidate ineligible. I report the decision that finally upon this point the law may be understood.

"I denied an application from a subordinate to issue an official request as Grand Master to all the subordinates to aid a brother said to be in distress, deeming that his own Lodge should first contribute to his relief to the extent of their ability before calling upon other Lodges.

"That an E. A. rejected for the second degree was in good standing as an E. A. until convicted upon charges.

"That a wife was a competent witness against her husband in a Masonic trial. [Disapproved by the Committee on Jurisprudence.]

"That an E. A. who had not applied for advancement in nine years, and had in the mean time lost his right hand, was ineligible for advancement.

"That a Lodge could rightfully charge an affiliation fee; though I think it ought to be prohibited by the constitution.

"That a candidate for advancement must exhibit proficiency in the English language, except in the case of Lodges allowed to work in other languages.

That after the lapse of thirteen years, an E. A. applying for advancement must petition for it, and a ballot be had."

He speaks very favorably of internal affairs, thus:

"So far as I am advised, the general condition of the Craft is prosperous and harmonious, and the Fraternity is, with due slowness and due dignity, gradually increasing both in numbers and in influence. Two cases only of real difficulty have come to my knowledge during the year. In one, I think, the matter was entirely adjusted, and it was not of much seriousness of character. An explanation of a misunderstanding effected its relief. In the other a trial has been had, and its result, I presume, will be here on appeal for review. But generally, considering the large number of the Craft in this jurisdiction, I can congratulate the Grand Lodge upon its healthy, harmonious and true Masonic condition. And so may it ever continue to be!"

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

R. W. Bro. John W. Woodhull gives us a very acceptable report on correspondence, notwithstanding his own depreciatory remarks about it, when he says "it is barely a skeleton."

His review includes the proceedings of forty-eight Grand Lodges, including those of Alabama for 1876—56th annual report—which are very acceptably and fraternally criticised.

We quote his reference to the writer's report of that year. and his failure to take note of Wisconsin, tendering our good brother thanks for his appreciative comments and assuring him that the omission referred to was caused alone by the non-receipt of his report. He says of these matters:

"The report on correspondence is by Bro. Oliver S. Beers. One hundred and thirty-seven closely printed pages are evidence to those who have written these reports, how arduous was the labor performed. Its historical exactness makes it valuable for reference, and we feel under many obligations to Bro. Beers for the many items of information we have gleaned by its perusal. *Wisconsin is not noticed. This we regret exceedingly. Because, Bro. Beers, we are up here near the icebergs, do not imagine we have no hearts, or that our warm casings are impenetrable.

Wisconsin brethren are ready, willing and glad to shake from their garments every vestige of ill will or temper which may have rested upon them in the sorrowful past, and stand side by side with Alabama brethren upon the great Masonic platform. Please do not pass us by again.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Jedd P. C. Cottrill (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Jno. W. Woodhull (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

WYOMING.

We have an interesting report from Wyoming, giving proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of that Territory at its third annual communication held at Evanston October 9th, A. D. 1877. Present M. W. Grand Master Frederick E. Adams, and a quorum of constituent members.

The Grand Master read an interesting annual address, giving us pleasant assurance of the prosperity and harmony of the Craft in that jurisdiction. He condemns the infidel action of the Grand Orient of France.

He discusses at some length the Cuban conflict, and recommends the official recognition of the Grand Lodge of Cuba, which was approved by the Grand Lodge, and they also recognized the M. W. Grand Lodge of New Mexico.

He also calls attention to, and expresses sensible views on, the subject of negro Masonry. He opposes the Ohio proposition authorizing two Grand Lodges in that jurisdiction, one for white and the other for colored men.

His views commend themselves to us as well expressed and judicious, save alone his advocacy of the claims of the Grand Lodge of Cuba.

The proceedings under review have an added interest in the able and instructive ORATION delivered by M. W. Melville P. Brown.

Wyoming has four chartered (and one U. D.) Lodges under her jurisdiction.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Bro. William G. Tonn, Grand Secretary, favors us with an acceptable report on correspondence, reviewing with evident care and discrimination the proceedings of forty-four Grand Lodges. His first effort, and on that score, together with limited time, etc., he claims immunity for deficiencies which are not apparent in his work.

The report of Alabama for 1876—56th annual—has due consideration.

He commends the address of Grand Master Pillans, and is quite pronounced against Bro. Sayre's resolutions on negro Masonry (offered, but not adopted by the Grand Lodge of Alabama).

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Bro. Orlando North.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. William G. Tonn (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

CONCLUSION.

After so long and so tedious a report as the foregoing, it is certainly permissible for us to conclude without a formal conclusion.

The writer, therefore, closes his review just here, and respectfully and fraternally submits his well-intended, if not well-performed, labors to the M. W. Grand Lodge and Brethren of Alabama for their indulgent consideration and kind approval, adding a pleasant *au revoir* to all *confreres* of the reportorial corps.

OLIVER S. BEERS,
Chairman.

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

With the number of Members, amount of Dues paid to the Grand Lodge, and the number of those Entered, Passed, Raised, Affiliated, Rejected, and Dimitted, since last Return.

Lodge Number	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members	Amount of Dues	Entered	Passed	Raised	Affiliated.	Rejected	Dimitted
1	Helion	63	$66 50	1	2	2	2		1
3	Alabama	22	11 00	1	1				
4	Rising Virtue	32	15 50			1	1		2
6	Moulton	45	22 00						2
7	Macon	29	13 50		1	1			1
8	Farrar	35	17 50		2	3	1		9
9	Gilead	33	15 50				1		
10	Royal White Hart	46	22 50	2	2	2			1
11	Montgomery	51	25 50				1		1
14	Florence	49					3		1
16	Athens	59				1	2		3
22	Saint Albans	21	11 00				1	1	
24	George Washington	26	24 00				3		
25	Dale	44	20 00	1	1	1	1		5
26	La Fayette	35	17 00	2	1	2	2		2
27	Selma Fraternal	89	44 50	1	1	1	2	2	6
29	Rising Sun	26					3	1	
31	Autauga	37	18 00						
36	Washington	30	15 00	1	1		1		
37	Courtland	24	11 50	4	5	4	2		1
39	Wetumpka	30	14 00			1			3
40	Mobile	74	37 00	1	1	1			1
41	Livingston	37	17 50	2	2	1			1
42	Hiram	37	18 50						
43	Leighton	22	10 00						1
44	Gaston	16	7 50	1	1	1			
46	Harmony	72	35 00				3	1	3
47	Warren	13	6 50						
49	Demopolis	33	15 50	2		1	1		1

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

Lodge Number	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members	Amount of Dues	Entered	Passed	Raised	Affiliated	Rejected	Dimitted.
50	Union	42	$20 50	1			1		
51	Jefferson	24	22 00						1
52	New Market	27	13 50						2
53	Greening	38		1	1	1	1		1
54	Amity	45	21 50				2		1
56	Troy	88	43 00	3	3	3	2	2	
57	Tuskegee	47	23 00	1	1	1			
59	Benton	28	14 00	4	3	2	3		1
61	Tompkinsville	17	19 50	1					1
62	Saint Johns	50	23 50	8	9	9	1		2
64	Eureka	61	29 50			1	1	1	5
65	Liberty	24	12 00	3	3	3	1		
67	Hampden Sidney	25	12 50	2					
68	Holsey	13	6 50						
69	Howard	64	30 50	6	4	4	1		2
70	Central	33	13 50	1	2	2	1	1	
71	Tohopeka	39	19 50						3
72	Widow's Son	20	9 50	1					1
74	Solomon	31	13 50						1
75	Cokerville	29	40 00			4			
76	Auburn	38	17 00			1			
78	Crozier	30	15 00				1		
79	Fredonia	17	7 50						
80	Wilcox	21	10 50						
82	Bellefonte	24							
83	Friendship	19	23 00						1
84	Erophotic	29	14 00	1	1	1			4
88	Meridian Sun	15	6 50				1		1
89	Prattville	40	20 00	4	3	3	1	1	1
90	Pastor	22	11 00	2	3	2	1		
91	Henry	37	17 00	3	3	3	1		2
93	Sawyer	34	16 00						1
96	Tuckabatchee	23	11 50			1	2		
97	Lozahatchee	57	28 00	1	1	1			
98	Fulton	23	10 50	2	2	2			1
99	Salem	25	12 00	2	2	2			
101	Hartwell	42	18 00	1	2	2	2		2
102	Newbern	13	13 50						
104	Good Samaritan	28						1	1
105	Shiloh	22		2					3

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

Lodge Number	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members.	Amount of Dues.	Entered.	Passed.	Raised.	Affiliated.	Rejected.	Dimitted.
106	Hermon	27	$13 00	.			.	.	2
107	Choctaw	27	12 50				.		2
108	Oak Bowery	16	8 00	1	1	1	1	.	3
110	Forest Hill	37	38 50				1	.	1
111	Sylvan	31	28 50				1	.	1
112	Dean	22		1					
117	Perryville	18	8 50						
119	Notasulga	20	9 00						
120	Camp Hill	20	10 00	2	1	1			1
122	Coffeeville	15	7 50						
123	Havana	20	10 00	.					1
124	Felix	19	19 50					.	3
125	Herndon	31	. .				.		
126	Mortimer Reesler	22	10 00				.	1	1
127	Bolivar	30	29 00	3	1		3		..
131	Yorkville	36	17 50	1	1	1	.		4
133	Loachapoka	19	9 50				.	1	3
135	Columbia	35	39 00	2	2	2	1	..	5
136	Unity	31	15 50	3	3	3	..	..	
138	Bradford	26	13 00				1	.	..
140	Shelby	67	....	5	4	4		.	1
141	Bethel	28	13 50	1	1	1	2	.	1
142	Baldwin	16	7 50	1				.	.
143	Burleson	31	14 50	2	2	4	.	.	4
144	Daleville	13	6 00					.	1
145	Fraternity	32	15 00	2	2	2	1	.	.
146	Missouri	16	14 50	1	1	1			.
147	Rodgersville	13	6 50	1	2	2			3
148	Cold Water	17	7 00	2	2	.	.		2
149	Chambers	26	23 50	1	2	2	1		..
150	Etam	16	15 00	2	1	1			4
151	Bladon Springs	14	6 50	1					
152	Mount Jefferson	23	....	.					1
153	Monroeville	30	14 50	1	1	1	1		1
154	Nixburg	20	9 00	1	2	2	2		2
155	Eastaboga	22	.....	.			.		.
158	Mayaville	46	44 00	1		2	1		2
161	Penick	35	31 00	2	2	3	4	..	..
163	Fayetteville Authentic	22	10 50	1	..	.	1	..	..
166	Sumter	12	5 00	..	..	..	3	..	..

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

Lodge Number	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members	Amount of Dues		Entered.	Passed.	Raised.	Affiliated.	Rejected.	Dimitted.
168	Mount Hope	34	14	50				1		1
169	Buena Vista	12	6	00	2	1	1			
170	Elba	40	40	50	2	2	2	1	2	4
171	Clopton	13	6	50						4
172	Fellowship	50	23	50	5	4	3		1	
173	Andrew Jackson	91	45	00	7	3	4	2	1	2
175	Ezel	10	5	00						
178	Desotoville	35	33	50						
180	Mount Hilliard	20	10	00						
181	Aberfoil	15	6	50	1	2				1
184	Brandidge	28	25	50	1	1	2	3	1	3
186	Catawba	29	12	50				1		
187	Landmark	17	18	00	1	1	1			2
188	Clintonville	21	10	50	1	3	3	1		
189	Delta	14	14	00	2	3	3	1	1	
190	Tombigbee	21	10	00					1	2
191	Brush Creek	15	7	50	1					
192	Chattahoochee	16	8	00	2	2	2	1		2
193	High Log	28	14	00	10	9	8			1
195	Opelika	22	10	00				3		
197	Hillabee	36	18	00	1	1	2	1		
198	Caledonia	14	7	00	1	1		3		1
199	Kiligee	22	11	00	6	5	2	2	1	2
200	Sylacauga	31	17	00	1			1	1	
203	Valley	19	9	50	2	2	1			2
204	Manning Spring	13	6	00						
207	Pettusville	40	17	00	2	2	1		1	
208	Alexandria	18	8	50				1		2
209	Marshall	28	14	00						2
211	York	17								
215	Builders	42	21	00						2
218	Sam Dixon	33	16	00				1		
219	Luneville	37	30	00						2
221	Tensaw	11	5	50	2					
222	Western Star	30	14	00	2	2	2	3		9
223	Sandy Ridge	15	7	00						1
224	Newton	29	14	00	2	1	1	3	1	2
225	Louisville	21	10	00	4	3	2			4
226	Santa Fee	27	13	00			1		1	5
227	James Penn	25	12	50						2

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

Names of Lodges.	No. of Members	Amount of Dues	Entered.	Passed.	Raised.	Affiliated.	Rejected.	Dimitted.
allas	31	$13 50				1		
exar	48	44 00	1	1			3	1
uck Spring	33	30 00	1	1				
pulga	14	6 00						2
arpersville	27	13 50						2
allassee	17	17 50						3
owen	37	18 50	2	2	3	1		1
osa	33	15 50	2	2	2			1
ainer	15	7 00						1
awson	40	19 50						2
arrison	27	11 00	5	5	5			3
opwell	33	30 50	3	2	2	1		4
awrence	35	16 50						2
mand	14	6 50						3
amp Creek	22	11 00						1
orth Port	34	16 50	3	2	2	1		
ose Hill	13	10 00				1		3
itman	18	8 50						1
aylesville	18					3		1
rvin	49	20 50	2	1			1	2
ndolph	22	9 00	2	2		1		4
agnolia	30	14 00						2
lleville	29	14 00						
lladega	54	26 00					1	
ghland	29	12 00	2		1			
alnut Grove	47	43 50	2	2	1	8		5
eridian	50	23 00	1			3	1	1
ount Pleasant	12	5 50	1					
utler Spring	31	15 50				3		1
a River	15	15 00	1			1		4
ilton	23	11 50						
rankfort	39	18 50	1	1		2		
arkinsville	31	15 00					1	1
orthern	52	25 50				2		1
harles Baskerville	30	29 00	1		1	2		2
chmond	21	19 50	2	2	2	1	1	3
aviston	18	19 00	3	2		2		
eorgians	35	16 00				2	1	6
Valker	19	8 50				1		1
linton	30	14 50				3		1

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

Lodge Number	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members	Amount of Dues	Entered	Passed	Raised	Affiliated	Rejected	Dimitted
290	Gillespie	10	$ 5 00	1	1	1			1
301	Norris	44	22 00			1		1	1
304	Zion	29	14 00	2	2	1			2
305	Central City	84	41 00	4	4	4	2		3
315	Jonesboro	37		1	1	1	1		1
319	Cluttsville	13	6 00			1	1		
320	Warrenton	34	32 50		1				1
321	Pleasant Hill	38	18 50	1	1			2	2
323	Holly Grove	30	12 50						
324	Viola	24	12 00	1	1				1
329	Madison Station	27	12 50	2	2	2	1		
330	Forkland	19	9 50	3	3	2	2		2
331	Charity	20	10 00						
332	Blue Eye	28	12 00	3	3	2			1
334	Oliver	24	11 50						
335	Nanafalia	18	9 00						
337	Johnson	31	15 00	1	1		2		2
338	Georgiana Davis	32	30 50	1	1	1	1		3
339	Albert Pike	36	16 50						10
340	Clear Creek	34	31 50						
341	Reagan	33	15 50	2	1	1	2		2
344	Pikeville	31	15 50		1				
345	Echo	36	17 50				2		
346	Hartville	22	10 50	4	4	4	1		3
348	Bienville	40	19 50	2	1	1		1	3
349	Ozark	50	24 50	2	2	2	1	2	2
350	Sipsey	28	25 50						
351	Wilson Williams	24		4	4	4		2	2
353	Rock Mills	42		1	1				3
354	Heaton	30	13 00	1	1	1			
357	Rutledge	18	9 00						
358	Barbour	19	8 50	1	1	1			2
359	Scottsboro	36	35 50	2	2	2	3	1	1
364	Pleasant Site	24					1		2
365	Houston	47	33 00	4	5	4		3	8
367	Chandler	24	11 00						
368	Cross Plains	56	26 00	1	2	2	2		
369	Athelstan	44	21 50				2		5
371	Russellville	36	36 50	3	2	2		1	3
373	Bell's Landing	21	9 00	1	1				3

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

Lodge Number.	Names of Lodges.	No of Members	Amount of Dues	Entered.	Passed.	Raised	Affiliated.	Rejected.	Dimitted.
374	Lodor	17							
375	Gainesville	33	16 00			1			
376	Santa Creek	18	8 00	2	2	1	1	2	1
378	Weogufka	24	9 50	4	3	3	5	1	1
379	Robert E. Lee	18	8 50				1		
380	Ohatchee	20	16 00	6	5	4	5	1	2
381	E. H. Cook	24	11 50	1	1	1	1	1	2
382	Waterloo	16	24 50	1	1	1			2
383	Ben Pope	26	13 00	1	1	1	2	2	1
384	Birmingham Fraternal	43	21 50		2	2	7	1	6
385	Munford	29	12 00			1	1		
386	Trinity	16	8 00	2	1	1			
387	Blue Spring	12	6 00						2
388	Newburgh	37	18 00	2	2		1		1
389	Vernon	45	22 00	3	5	5	1	1	4
390	Weathers	17	8 50	1	1	1			1
391	North Border	22	11 00						
392	Hickory Flat	23	11 00	1	1	3	2		1
394	Valley Head	23	9 00				2		
395	Opelika	23	11 00	1	1	1	3	1	2
396	Falkville	29	26 00	1	1	1	3		1
397	Black Oak	20		1	1	1	5		4
398	Hartselle	17	7 00	3	3	3			1
399	Haw Ridge	15	7 00	2	2	1			1
400	Hanceville	24	11 25	3	1	1	2		2
402	Green Hill	24	11 00	5	3	2		1	2
403	Childersburg	14	7 00	1	1	1	1		
404	Hoboken	15	7 00	1	1	1			1
406	Doric	24	11 50	1	1	1	4		3
407	North River	13	6 50					1	1
408	Hillsboro	20	10 50	3	3	3			1
410	Helena	36	17 50	5	7	7	3	3	1
411	Jemison	23	11 00	8	7	5	3		4
412	Amberson	30	14 00	2	3	4	3	1	1
413	High Shoals	21	17 50	5	4	5	4		1
414	Sulphur Spring	14	5 50			1	1		
415	Oak Level	25	10 50	5	5	6			1
416	Williamsburg	15	7 00	1	1	1			
417	George Smith	14	6 00	1	1	1			3
419	Hilton	12		6	3	2			

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

Lodge Number	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members	Amount of Dues	Entered	Passed	Raised	Affiliated	Rejected	Dimitted
420	Broomtown	20	$ 9 50	..	..	..	1	..	..
421	Cullman Fraternal	2:	10 00	11	10	9	1	1	2
422	Shorterville	22	.....	8	9	11	2	1	1
423	Clanton	23	11 00	..	1	6	5	..	..
424	George Wilson, U. D.	16	... .	2	2	2	6	1	..
425	Temple, U. D.	18	.....	..	..	..	7	..	..

1878.

AT REFRESHMENT ABOVE.

Daniel Johnson, Feb. 18, 1877	Helion	No.	1
John C. Logeman, March 13, 1877			
Martin J. Tighe, March ——,			
Robert Herstein, Sept. 20			
John Huey, April 7			
James E. Cain, Sept. ——,			
A—— H. Ellett, May 16			
Pleasant L. Martin, April 21	Macon	"	7
Edward W. Small, ——			
John Wimberly, July 25	Gilead	"	9
William S. Grubbs, Aug. 23	Royal White Hart	"	10
Joseph Win Moses, Dec. 20, 1877	Montgomery	"	11
Jesse J. Cox, Sept. 5			
John A. Portlock, Nov. 13	Florence	"	14
John Walston, Jan. 30			
Patrick W. Dowd, Jan. 25	Athens	"	16
Hiram J. Black, May 6			
John Moore, Dec. 15, 1877, 53 years	Dale	"	25
John D. Caldwell, Sept. 21, 71 years			
Charles M. Green, Oct. 4	Selma Fraternal	"	27
Frederic Ludwig, Sept. 20	Rising Sun	"	29
Joel W. Whitten, Oct. 20			
James Nunn, Feb. 20	Autauga	"	31
William L. Stamps, Sept. 9	Washington	"	36
Edmunds Mason, Dec. 18, 1877	Wetumpka	"	39
George Suttle, Jan. 16			
Benjamin F. Marshall Jr., Feb. 22	Mobile	"	40
Lewis Green, June 7			
Robert W. Fort, Oct. 13			
Waldo W. Shearer, June 1	Livingston	"	41
John H. Gray, Aug. 15			
James Crow, Jan. 24	Hiram	"	42
James F. Grant, Oct. 11			
John Hare, ——	Gaston	"	44
Julius M. Macon, Jan. 4	Harmony	"	46
Charles Walker, Jan. 1, 77 years	Union	"	50
John Helms, Oct. 9	Jefferson	"	51
Thomas J. Herndon, Dec. 29, 1877	Amity	"	54
James McCaleb Wiley, P.G.M., Dec. 4, '77	Troy	"	56
William H. Strickland, July 10			

Andrew F. Moore, March 25	Tuskegee	No.	57
Robert R. Wright, May 21	Eureka	"	64
John R. Holly, Sept. 17			
Nicholas C. Ellerbe, May 9, 30 years	Liberty	"	65
John Remy Lassabe, Dec. 16, 1877	Howard	"	69
Matthew McCartney, Dec. 23, 1877			
Jonathan P. May, Feb. 11			
Abram C. Hall, Dec. 19, 37 years	Widow's Son	"	72
Henry E. Allen, July 20	Solomon	"	74
Woodford R. Hanna, Oct. 15, 73 years	Crozier	"	78
Green Holderfield, June 28	Fredonia	"	79
Frank M. Finch, Jan. 18	Wilcox	"	80
Joseph Henderson, April 18			
Karl Kahn, May 19			
Willis W. C. Cleveland, Aug. 26	Friendship	"	83
Oliver C. Cleveland, Sept. 3			
Richard H. Lee, August 7, 50 years	Erophotic	"	84
James B. Appling, Jan. 10	Henry	"	91
Larkin E. West, Dec. 17, 1877	Sawyer	"	93
John H. Marison, Feb. 18	Lozahatchee	"	97
Jerry Perry, Feb. ——	Newbern	"	102
David C. Russel, Dec. 21, 1877, 84 years.	Forest Hill	"	110
Albert M. Smith, Feb. 8, 1877	Sylvan	"	111
Roswell H. Wallis, July 28	Perryville	"	117
Joseph Clark, Dec. 11, 1877	Bolivar	"	127
Henry Bunn, April 11			
Jerome B. Castilla, April 20			
Ephraim Simpson, Sept. 26, 76 years	Yorkville	"	131
Nathan W. Patillo, Oct. 3	Loachapoka	"	133
William M. McMath, Nov. 5	Shelby	"	140
William W. Weatherford, Dec. 30, 1877, 53 years	Burleson	"	143
Hannibal A. Gillespie, May 18, 40 years.	Fraternity	"	145
John J. Chewing, Jan. 20, 1877	Chambers	"	149
Henry C. Spears, Oct. 12	Etam	"	150
William Campbell, Dec. ——	Bladon Springs	"	151
William Long, Nov. 11			
William M. Johnston, Feb. 15, 33 years.	Nixburg	"	154
John T. Taylor, Feb. 15	Maysville	"	158
William Batson, Oct. 6, 1877	Penick	"	161
George W. Williams, June 6			
Robert Stuart, Sept. 10			
John Lovejoy, Feb. 28	Fayetteville Authentic	"	163
Richard O. Taylor, March 3, 1877	Elba	"	170
Littleberry H. Brunson, April 10, 1877			
Elijah Young, Oct. 24, 58 years			
Hugh M. Caffey, March 15	Andrew Jackson	"	173
Richard H. Kelly, Sept. 12			
Samuel A. Wyatt, April 23	Catawla	"	186
William B. Kerr, July 29			

William C. Withington, Sept. 12, 1877..	Landmark	No. 187
Thomas H. Blair, Feb. 6		
Alfred S. Allen, Dec. 18, 1877		
William L. Mitchell, Feb. 19	Delta	" 189
Sidney W. Blackburn, April 13	Brush Creek	" 191
Joel Holyfield, Aug. 7		
John G. Gholston, April 15	High Log	" 193
Edward Elliott Pearce, Aug. 20, 59 years.	Caledonia	" 198
William B. Hargrove, Dec. 3, 1877	Pettusville	" 207
Lucius G. Freeman	York	" 211
John W. Garrison, Oct. 10	Lineville	" 219
William W. Powell, July 25		
Samuel Pond, Nov. 8, 71 years	Western Star	" 222
David Hudson, Aug. ——	Newton	" 224
John A. Wood, Feb. 16	James Penn	" 227
Thomas Bennett, Feb. 2	Sepulga	" 233
John E. Hollands, Aug. 2, 38 years	Bowen	" 241
Joseph Thornley, Feb. 2		
James T. Brady, Dec. 14, 1877, 52 years.	Harrison	" 246
William N. Henderson June, 10, 50 years.		
James Thaddeus, Oct. 19, 62 years		
John J. Abbott, Nov. 22, 1876, 57 years.	Cropwell	" 247
Pickens D. Cosper, March 25, 1877, 57 years		
Walker W. Wadsworth, May 3, '77, 34 years		
John Deason, March 17	North Point	" 252
Richard Robertson, May 22		
Moses Shirley, June 4		
Jacob Arant, Sept. 5, 1878	Quitman	" 254
Joseph J. N. McConnell, March 4	Gaylesville	" 256
Henry Gulley, March 14	Bellville	" 260
Xavier Willman, March 10	Talladega	" 261
Willis B. Blankenship, June 9	Meridian	" 265
Kinneth Carpenter, Aug. 21	Frankfort	" 275
Andrew J. Wood, June 28	Northern	" 278
Andrew J. Moates, Oct. 26	Georgiana	" 285
Jonas Webb, Oct. 22	Gillespie	" 290
Charles C. Stewart, Sept. 14, 55 years	Zion	" 304
John S. Wheeler, Oct. 12, 65 years		
Thomas Lasgen, June 30	Cluttsville	" 319
John P. Wallace, Sept. 9	Charity	" 331
Matthew Harper, Oct. 28	Oliver	" 334
Jacob Petree, Sept. 12, 63 years	Albert Pike	" 339
Robert G. Reagan, Nov. 1	Reagan	" 341
Daniel B. Jones, June 25	Sipsey	" 350
James Saxon, Jan. 6, 64 years	Heaton	" 354
Benjamin F. Moseley, June 21	Barbour	" 358
Phillip C. Daniel, March 5.	Pleasant Site	" 364
Joberry Woodall, May 7	Cross Plains	" 368
Lessly William, Dec. 7, 1876	Weogufka	" 378
Alexander G. Peddy, April 18		
Daniel W. Long, June 5, 58 years	Waterloo	" 382

Richard B. Neville, July. 5.....	Trinity..... .....No.	386
John C. Strickland, March 22.....	Hickory Flat..... "	392
Moses W. Lackey, Feb. 2, 1877.....	Black Oak..... "	397
Jesse M. Warren, June 10..... .	Haw Ridge.... ..... "	399
Hardy A. Braswell, Nov. 17, 1877.....	Hoboken..... ..... "	404
Andrew J. Etheredge, Sept. 2.....		
Joel M. Smitherman, March 31.....	Jemison..... ..... "	411

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

HELION No. 1.—Hiram Brewster, N. B. Grayson, Mack B. Irby, Thomas McCalley Jr., Harvey W. Nance, James J. Pleasants, M—— L. Seat, B—— F. Stein, S—— D. Cabanis, T—— J. Humphrey, John R. Johnson, C—— J. Mastin, William Weeden, J—— B. White—14.

MOULTON No. 6.—Samuel C. Alexander, Drury W. Bynum, David F. Dinsmore, David L. Dinsmore, William S. Eyster, William D. Gleasen, John P. Hodges, David C. Murphree, Henry N. McWhorter, Thomas Masterson, John C. McCluskey, Thomas B. Ponder, John W. Roberts, Edgar T. Simms, Pleasant Sivley, Morgan L. Ussery, James T. Woodruff, Benjamin F. Whitlow, Franklin M. Crow, John G. Coffey, John W. McCluskey—21.

MACON No. 7.—Zachariah L. Bettis, Whitfield B. Summers, William S. Williamson, John D. DeWitt—4.

GILEAD No. 9.—David W. Wright, W. H. H. Hendricks, Rufus G. Lassiter, R. S. Wright, Haywood Vaughan, John J. Altman, Hiram J. Bruister, James H. O'Hara, Joseph B. Daniel, Richard B. Smith—10.

ROYAL WHITE HART No. 10.—John E. Thomas, James B. Cox, Michael R. Hill, John H. Rollins, Monroe Warren—5.

MONTGOMERY No. 11.—John P. Dickerson, George P. Fuhrman, Frank M. Hereford, John W. Simpson, Malcom D. Fisher—5.

ATHENS No 16.—Silas R. Hine—1.

SAINT ALBANS No. 22.—Waller H. Grant—1.

DALE No. 25.—Jason Holloman, Marshall G. Condee, William A. George, Joseph H. Bonner, Richard C. Jones, George H. Moye, Robert Tait, John McCaskill—8.

LA FAYETTE No. 26.—Shadrack C. Tramill—1.

SELMA FRATERNAL No 27.—Joseph Gothard, John P. Howard, Jeremiah Johnson, John A. McLeod, William H. Welch, James W. Young—6.

RISING SUN No. 29.—Benjamin F. Cross, John Flack—2.

COURTLAND No. 37.—Edward C. James, Joseph Wheeler, Charles C. Swope—3.

WETUMPKA No. 39.—George W. Turner—1.

MOBILE No. 40.—James M. Hartsfield—1.

LIVINGSTON No. 41.—Lewis Parent, Isaac James Lee, Harvey B. Leitch—3.

LEIGHTON No. 43.—F. C. Vinson, B. R. King, James M. Morgan—3.

HARMONY No. 46.—Jacob Lorch, James M. Tallman—2.

DEMOPOLIS No. 49.—Joseph H. Armstrong, M—— D. Picard—2.

UNION No. 50.—Joseph Blanks, Jacob Taas—2.

NEW MARKET No. 52.—Daniel H. Petty, George H. Britton—2.

GREENING No. 53.—Jeptha P. Howard—1.

AMITY No. 54.—James A. McAlpine, Beverly B. Pierce, Patrick C. Schappert, Winter P. Hall, George M. Hickman, George Stewart—6.

TROY No. 56.—Bartley Darby, David B. Casksey—2.

TUSKEGEE No. 57.—John A. Cunningham, James A. Chapman, William Zeiss, Thomas W. Daughtry, Thomas F. Daughtry—5.

TOMPKINSVILLE No. 61.—Leonidas Alston, James M. Fouchee, John W. Johnson, John M. Johnson, E. Terrell Kemp, James R. Young—6.

EUREKA No. 64.—John T. Broughton, Henry M. Caldwell, Hill F. Oliver, Lafayette H. J. Brown, Andrew M. Black, William G. Harrison, James S. Womack, William A. Dukes—8.

HAMPDEN SIDNEY No. 67.—Alexis R. Dennison, William Richardson, William C. Sager, Charles E. Wilson, Charles P. Sparrenberger, John M. Shelton—6.

HOWARD No. 69.—Harry W. Clayton—1.

CENTRAL No. 70.—John W. Crim—1.

TOHOPEKA No. 71.—Alfred Johnson—1.

WIDOW'S SON No. 72.—Jay McCondichue—1.

SOLOMON No. 74.—William H. Denson, Oliver D. Towles, McClelland Rachford—3.

CROZIER No. 78.—William Defreece, Terrel Andrews, John W. Hanna—3.

FREDONIA No. 79—William H. Goss, James G. Young—2.

WILCOX No. 80.—William T. Martin, Oliver Carter, Thomas F. Jenkins, John W. Wilson, Andew J. Dunnum—5.

FRIENDSHIP No. 83.—Isham Pounds, Albert B. Hamlet, Jasper J. Little, James A M. Ward, Milton W. Perry, James McGill—6.

MERIDIAN SUN No. 88.—Thomas Riggs—1.

PRATTVILLE No. 89.—William J. Boom—1.

TUCKABATCHEE No. 96.—Arthur L. Foreman—1.

LOZAHATCHEE No. 97.—William J. S. Striplin—1.

FULTON No. 98.—Isaac M. Rogers—1.

HARTWELL No. 101.—Robert McKibbin, James McKibbin, Henry T. Snow, Robert Chappell—4.

NEWBERN No. 102.—Robert W. Drake, David Shamlin, Boney Sisco—3.

GOOD SAMARITAN No. 104.—William H. Biard, Isaiah T. Talbot, Constantine M. Harris, Strawder Gaines, Hugh Wright, Andrew W. Smith, Samuel C. Coggin--7.

SHILOH No. 105.--James H. Threadgill, Nathan Daniels--2.

FOREST HILL No. 110.--John R. Brandon, James P. Cospor, Elbert Jordan--3.

SYLVAN No 111.—Thomas L. Landon, Henry L. Wood, Lafayette N. Cole, James H. Robertson --4.

DEAN No. 112.—John M. Liles, Henderson B. Still, Samuel P. Feagin, Reuben Hart, Henry T. Parker, Benjamin F. Grice, Isaac Wade, Samuel McGowin, William Foshee, Alexander McGowin—10.

PERRYVILLE No. 117.— Francis M. Ford, John S. Ford, Balaam A. Foster, James S. Heard, John White--5.

CAMP HILL No. 120.—William J. Slaughter, Marion Z. D. Pitman, Harry J. Bryant, Marion Milner—4.

BOLIVAR No. 127.—Flavius J. Graham, Hugh Westmoreland, William J. Lingnen, Thomas D. Westmoreland, Francis M. Barrier, James G. Caperton, James L. D. Russell, John Clay Caperton, Jerry H. J. Williams, Thomas Brown, John Smith, Adam H. Caperton, Charles L. M. Porter, Thomas T. Cotnam, Benjamin W. D. Hille, Andrew Horn, Samuel C. Norwood, Samuel H. Glover, Newton Hackworth, Frank R. Allison, Alexander Brown, James B. Arendale—22.

YORKVILLE No. 131.—Robert J. Henry—1.

COLUMBIA No. 135.--Dougald P. McNair, Frank M. Bunker, Daniel Carmichael, Henry B. Davis, James Hooten, Thomas Robinson, Henry Wechsler, Wiley Williams, William McNeally—9.

UNITY No. 136.—James D. Clark, William M. Vaughan--2.

BRADFORD No. 138.—Joseph G. Pearson, Isaac L Chafin—2.

BETHEL No. 141.— Charles W. Defreese, Daniel I. Walden—2.

BALDWIN No. 142.—Virgil E. Crawford, John Kilcrease, Joseph P. McGill, William F. Stapleton—4.

RODGERSVILLE, No. 147.--John D. Nance, George Shoemaker, Joshua J. Crittenden—3.

COLD WATER No. 148.—Benjamn Caffee, John W Thrasher, Richmond C. Caffee, Newberne B. Durette —3.

CHAMBERS No. 149.--Franklin L. Treadwell, William I. Manning, James L. Nease, Abner Hurlson— 4.

BLADON SPRINGS No. 151.—B—— N. Corley—1.

MOUNT JEFFERSON No. 152.—William White—1.

MAYSVILLE No. 158.—Perry L. Harrison, Benjamin W. Brown, John F. Clark, Frank B. Gurley—4.

PENICK No. 161.—Stephen P. Haynie, Harrison B. Holman, John H. Mann, William C. Wallace, John B. Turner, Herod Bush—6.

FAYETTEVILLE AUTHENTIC No. 163.—John B. Green—1.

SUMTER No 166.—William T. Ward, John C. Ezelle—2.

ELBA No. 170.—James Duncan, James H. O'Rear, Thomas Spigener—3

CLOPTON No. 171. —Robert Y. Daniels—1.

ANDREW JACKSON No. 173.—Richard H. Adams, Cadwallider H. Beale, George C. Ball, James W. Oats, James R Stewart, Hiram Haines —7.

ABERFOIL No. 181.—Isaac F. Culver—1.

BRUNDIDGE No. 184.—Caswell Emfinger—1.

CATAWLA No. 186 —Henry W. Box, Samuel Isaacs, Jenkins D. Clark —3.

TOMBIGBEE No. 190.—Comer B. Jones, John W. Ellis—2.

BRUSH CREEK No. 191.—Elias E. Tramill, William P. Langston, Geo. S. Turner, William W. Sims, Thomas C. Rayfield—5.

CHATTAHOOCHEE No. 192.—J —— M. Love, F—— H. Calhoun, Wiley Duffee, F—— Yarborough, George Roberts, Thomas Jennings, James J. Havis—7.

HIGH LOG No. 193.—Leopold Wolf—1.

OPELIKA No. 195.—Elisha C. Bowen, Robert E. Bowen, John B. Barnett, John C. Condon, Warren S. Douglass, George W. Dawson, Houston L. Griffin, John W. Hewell, John C. Meadows—9.

SYLACAUGA No. 200.—John T. Applewhite, William B. Gooch, John T. McMillan, William R. Owens, James H. Caudle—5.

VALLEY No. 203.—William D. Lewis, Robert J. Tankersley—2.

ALEXANDRIA No. 208.—Phillip H. Brother, Jonathan Phillips, Mark D. Broughton, John F. Walker, Luke A. Hanks—5.

YORK No. 211.—Guilliam Randolph, Wilson Shepherd, Samuel Walton, Isaac H. Shepherd, William B. Appling, Rufus L. Jones—6.

SAM DIXON No. 215.—James McGee, Aip Lowe, John Dixon, James Bradford, James B. Davis, Samuel Roberts, Thomas A. Autery, Robert Cameron, William A. Lowe, Tilman H. Knight—10.

LINEVILLE No. 219.—Jesse H. Burkhead, Killet Sims, Aaron Parker—3

WESTERN STAR No. 222.—Oscar F. Hunter, Elijah S Alvis—2.

LOUISVILLE No. 225. Seaborn J. Cumming, James L. Bradley, Uzziel R. Shelby, James A. McLemore, Alexander P. Johnson, Judge T. Jackson, James M. Grant, Frank M. Cordeman, Pharaoh Carroll, James Tombelin—10.

SANTA FE No. 226.--John M. Dabney, Seth P. Stringer, Edwin J. Doty, Josiah Jones, Elisha McVay– 5.

DUCK SPRING No. 231.—John Stowers, A. A. Parr, Martin F. Scott--3

SEPULGA No. 233.—John H. Stamps, James L. McLain—2.

BOWEN No. 241.—Joseph C. Nix, Samuel H. Stephens—2.

RAMER No. 243.—Tenerson N. Chesser, Calvin Stevens, Samuel N. Sharp, David Levingston, Thomas J. Wilkins—5.

DAWSON No. 244.—David Majors, William J. Norsworthy, Henry C. Smith, Joseph M. Sellers, James Nichols, William P. Bass, Cincinnatus D. Owen—7.

HARRISON No. 246.—Thomas T. Moore, Thomas J. Bryant, Aaron S. Head, William O. Thomas, Nathan S. Dukes—5.

CROPWEL No. 247.—Robert Cook, James O. Hardwick, Jesse T. Masters, John M. Sims, Lewis Stracener, Jones J. Willingham, Thomas R. Beavers, Jefferson Riley, John Rowe—9.

LAWRENCE No. 248.—William H. Ennis, Timothy Lee, George P. Pitman, William J. Parish, Giles W. Richards, John A. Scott, Winfield Scott—7.

AMAND No. 250.—William Motes—1.

NORTH PORT No. 252.—Leonidas F. Burks, James S. McGee, Thomas Clements, James H. Freeman, William L. Christian, Jonathan Shirley, Oliver H. Day—7.

ROSE HILL No. 253.—Benjamin J. Boyett, Jonathan J. Harrelson, Wade H. Childre, Stephen Woodam—4.

QUITMAN No. 254.—Augustus F. Whittle—1.

GAYLESVILLE No 256.—Henry Young, James Newman, William F. Henderson, B. Madison McGee, Charles M. Bell, Andrew L. Barry, Samuel M. Simmons, William M. Barnard, Patrick B. Elliott, Seneca J. Kelley, John Winters—11.

RANDOLPH No. 258.—John W. Patterson, John W. Berry– 2.

MAGNOLIA No. 259.—John Craft, Cleanthus R. Eastburn, Charles J. Malone, Alexander McKinstry, James T. McKay, George W. Smith—6.

TALLADEGA No. 261.—James S. Watson—1.

WALNUT GROVE No. 264.--John P. Honea, William Young, Elias R Bynum, Jesse S. Robinett, John Foster, Andrew J. Nunaly, Jonathan Morton, Tapleigh Murphree—8.

BUTLER SPRINGS, No. 270.—James J. Thigpen, Spencer Thomas Glenn —2.

PEA RIVER No. 271.--William T. Pritchett, William McCall, Thomas McCollough—3.

FRANKFORT No. 275.--Sidney A. Jones, Andrew B. Hill, James W. Hooper, Edwin S. Vinson, William B. Sparks—5.

CHARLES BASKERVILLE No. 281.—Benjamin F. Peters, Reuben C. Steward—2.

RICHMOND No. 282.—John Stoutenborough, John H. Williamson, John Simkins, John E. Albritton—4.

GEORGIANA No. 285.—John R. Bunkley, Wiley H. Tynes—2.

CLINTON No. 287.—Ansel Peacock—1.

GILLESPIE No. 290.—J. H. Dobbs, John Bowls, J. J. Deavons, T. J. Garrison, Noel Hyde, M. S. Parks, J. S. Miller, B. M. Kimbrell, H. S. Amerson, J. P. Harbin—10.

NORRIS No. 301.—Newton M. Davis, William B. Amos, William C. Johnson, William Jernigan, Richard S. Weaver—5.

WARRENTON No. 320—Rufus Herron—1.

PLEASANT HILL No. 321.—William J. Howell—1.

VIOLA No. 324.—William T. Cornelius, James W. Dickerson—2.

MADISON STATION No. 329.—Wilsey Pride—1.

FORKLAND No. 330.—D. Milton Little—1.

CHARITY No. 331.—William J. Harrison—1.

OLIVER No. 334.—Monroe Adams, Thomas B. Creagh, N. Floyd Dixon, J. Leonard Goodman—4.

NANAFALIA No. 335.—Frederick T. Ernest—1.

JOHNSON No. 337.—Nubal F. Moore, John D. Chapman, William R. Norton—3.

GEORGIANA DAVIS No. 338.—John S. Edwards, Daniel C. Claudus, John W. Haywood, Samuel W. Bass—4.

ALBERT PIKE No. 339.—Matterson J. Roberts, William H. Jones, James S. McCleskey, Hugh W. Rutland—4.

PIKEVILLE No. 344.—William A. Hall, Jesse M. Dodson—2.

BIENVILLE No. 348.—Thomas K. Catlet—1.

OZARK No. 349.—Thomas R. Grace, James Harris, Thomas A. Byrd—3

WILSON WILLIAMS No. 351.—W. H C. Gipson—1.

HEATON No. 354.—Joel Scales, John C. Huddleston, Hugh McYork, John A. Veal, Hugh A. Mattox, Alexander Herley, John W. D. Lancaster, James Couch 8.

RUTLEDGE No. 357.—Joseph E. Mills, James M. Perkins, Isaac J. Brunson—3.

BARBOUR No. 358.—Benjamin F. Barry, Arthur Carpenter, Thomas J. Perry—3.

SCOTTSBORO No. 359.—John H. McClenden, Thomas J. Precise, Young M. Howard, Benjamin R. Franks, Samuel Vaughan, Miles Moody—6.

PLEASANT SITE No. 364.—Elijah P. Gant, Bennett White—2.

CROSS PLAINS No. 368.—Joseph R. Walker, Joshua E. Brock, James C. Ferguson—3.

Russellville No. 371.—William H. Bryant, John W. Ligon, William A. Fike. Lemick Taylor, Joseph T. Crook—5.

Bell's Landing No. 373.—John G. Johnson, W. Davis Brown, Joseph Snell—3.

Lodor No. 374.—John H. Lester, Walter S. Gordon—2.

Gainesville No. 375.—E. Fletcher Cox—1.

Sauta Creek No. 376.—Steven Culburt, Samuel Johnson—2.

Weogufka No. 378.—Robert Taylor—1.

Robert E. Lee No. 379.—Albert A. Halloway, Malichi G. Brooks—2.

Waterloo No. 382.—Ephraim Reed, Davis W. Hooten, James J. Belew, Samuel McDaniel, Lee Howell, William M. Sloane, Madison Pickens, C—— M. Hall—8.

Birmingham Fraternal No. 384.—Andrew Marre, Marion M. Posey, James B. Fonville, Goldsmith W. Hewitt, John A. McIntosh, William T. Stewart—6.

Munford No. 385.—Josiah N. Kennedy, James T. Jones, James Partlow, William C. Bledsoe—4.

Trinity No. 386.—Eugene Ferris, J. Council Baker, John C. Baker Senr., Francis M. Baker, George G. Roop, John H. Kitchens, Joseph Robinson—7.

Blue Spring No. 387.—Calvin J. McCough—1.

Newburg No. 388.—Charles P. Banks, John S. Russell, John G. Whitlock, Isaac L. Graves, William P. Dickerson, Francis M. Little—6.

Vernon No. 389.—George Cannon, John Brown—2.

Weathers No. 390.—Henry C. Knight, John N. Moore, John T. Manning, William M. Weathers, William R. Scott, Samuel W. Walker, John A. Walker, Philip Ellingburg, Samuel D. Vaughan, Little Harris—10.

Hickory Flat No. 392.—Sanford W. Osley, Seaborn J. Smith—2.

Opelika No. 395.—Maberry Wilson, William H. Howard, Silas Jones —3.

Falkville No. 396.—William M. Turney, William L. McCroskey—2.

Black Oak No. 397.—James N. Mitchell—1.

Helena No. 410.— John H. Milam—1.

Jemison No. 411.— David A. Abston—1.

Oak Level No. 415.—Charles J. Buttram—1.

REINSTATED.

HELION No. 1.—Albert Erskine, Robert H. Wilson—2.

RISING VIRTUE No. 4.—Laurance G. Blunt—1.

ROYAL WHITE HART No. 10—John E. Crews—1.

MONTGOMERY No. 11.—William T. Hatchett, David Hirshman, George P. Fable—3.

SELMA FRATERNAL No 27.—Richard M. Oakman Jr., Thomas B. Wetmore, Charles E. Stephens, Thomas Williams—4.

RISING SUN No. 29.—Warren P. Brundidge, James S. Britain, Lewis M. Falk, William H. Smith, James H. Wells, John W. Jones—6.

WASHINGTON No. 36.—John M. Powers—1.

COURTLAND No. 37.—James J. Beemer—1.

MOBILE No. 40.—William H. Kelly Jr., James G. Stewart—2.

DEMOPOLIS No. 49 —William A. Seawell—1.

UNION No. 50.—Robert H. Harper, Gilbert S. Nicolson, Thomas Hudson—3.

JEFFERSON No. 51.—John C. West, Henry S. Bogan, John Helms, Francis A. Harwell—4.

NEW MARKET No. 52.—Albert G. Johnson, Alfred O. Williamson—2.

AMITY No. 54.—Erasmus Ball, Thompson C. Hawkins—2.

TOMPKINSVILLE No. 61.—Henry W. Threadgill—1.

SAINT JOHNS No. 62.—Salmon P. Thompson, Algier A. Maison, K. T. Jones, Carrice Laslie, William Ivey, William Youngblood, N P. Beverly—7.

EUREKA No 64.—Robert R. Wright, Thomas J. Burnett, Charles J. Watson—3.

CENTRAL No. 70 —Marion F. Lally, James M. Pardew, John Frost—3.

TOHOPEKA No. 71.—John F. Shepard, James H. Pitts, William H. Shepard, Benjamin P. Young, Benjamin H. Wagner—5

WIDOW'S SON No 72.—Matthew F. Albritton—1.

SOLOMON No. 74.—John H Barnes—1.

CROZIER No. 78.—Robert T. Johnston, Alfred T. Martin 2.

FREDONIA No. 79.—Green Holderfield 1.

WILCOX No. 80.—Barrel Haddox, John Marshall—2.

FRIENDSHIP No. 83.—Thomas M. Taylor—1.

EROPHOTIC No. 84.—Richard H. Lee, George J. Sally—2.

MERIDIAN SUN No. 88.—John H. Underwood—1.

TUCKABATCHEE No. 96.—James F Waddell, Benjamin F. Piper—2.

LOZAHATCHEE No. 97.—John H. Marison—1.

FULTON No. 98.—Julius E. Barnes—1.

HARTWELL No. 101.—Daniel Eubanks—1.

NEWBERN No. 102.—Jerry Perry—1.

GOOD SAMARITAN No. 104.—Terrell A. Colley, Elisha L. Phillips—2.

SHILOH No. 105.—William R. Fornis—1.

OAK BOWERY No. 108.—Moses W. Matthews.—1.

SYLVAN No. 111.—Kennedy Cook, James C. Cook, E. Collier Foster, Thomas J. Farmer, John P. Toole, A. Howard Sealey, A. Rush Burton—7.

FELIX No. 124.—Robert D. Thornton—1.

MORTIMER REEDER No. 126.—James E. Jones.

YORKVILLE No. 131.—L. D. Hawkins—1.

BRADFORD No. 138.—William M. Sturdivant.—1.

SHELBY No. 140.—Ellis Veitch—1.

BETHEL No. 141.—Marcus L. Snow—1.

BURLESON No. 143.—John B. Ferguson—1.

FRATERNITY No. 145.—James D. Crump, John R. Glasscock, Willis A. Green, James H. Geigsley, Henry M. Tidmore, Maximillian Tidmore—6

RODGERSVILLE No. 147.—James Douglass, Benjamin F Taylor, Archibald D. Ray—3.

COLD WATER No. 148.—John W. White—1.

CHAMBERS No. 149—Green C. Barron—1.

BLADON SPRINGS No. 151.—William Long—1.

NIXBURG No. 154.—William M. Martin, Alexander Walls—2.

MAYSVILLE No. 158.—Andrew M. Sublett, George W. O'Neal, Calloway Potts, Jesse Reed, Thomas B. Lawler—5.

FAYETTEVILLE AUTHENTIC No. 163.—William D. Boaz.—1.

SUMTER No 166.—Darling E. Allen, John A. Lockard—2.

MOUNT HOPE No. 168.—John M. Coleman, James S. Gibson, John M. Clark—3.

CLOPTON No. 171.—Murdock Lammon, William E. Cook—2.

FELLOWSHIP No. 172.—James Berry, Alexander C. Richardson—2.

ANDREW JACKSON No. 173.—Clifton W. Kennedy—1.

CATAWLA No. 186.—Samuel G. Smithwick—1.

LANDMARK No. 187—Edward W. Stephens—1.

BRUSH CREEK No. 191.—John T. Wood—1.

HILLABEE No. 197.—L. Truss Parnell—1.

VALLEY No. 203.—Archibald Hammon, George W. Hearn—2.

ALEXANDRIA No. 208.—William M. Glenn—1.

SAM DIXON No. 216.—Reuben Angle, Edward D. Childers, Philip Hudgins, Gilbert R. Tracey—4.

LINEVILLE No. 219.—John Ramsey, William D. Hood, James J. Clardy—3.

TENSAW No. 241.—Columbus B. Avery—1.

WESTERN STAR No. 222.—Stephen J. McCorkle—1.

NEWTON No. 224.—John W. Skipper—1.

LOUISVILLE No. 225.—Daniel N. McKinnon, William R. Baxter, Stephen A. Andrews, Malcolm Gillis, Henry Stokes, Edward M. Heron, John R. H. Passmore, Beacon B. McKenzie, William W. Herring, Angus A. McLean—10.

JAMES PENN No. 227.—William C. Bethune. Button Searcy—2.

DALLAS No. 228.—Wilson M. Ligon, Matthew McClintock, Jail C. Wade—3.

BEXAR No. 230.—Walter H. Matthews—1.

DUCK SPRING No. 231.—Jeptha Edwards—1.

DAWSON No. 244.—Franklin A. Ansley, Thaddeus C. Owings, Valentine Kirkpatrick.—3.

HARRISON No. 246.—Andrew J. Bryant, William N. Henderson—2.

AMAND No. 250.—Erastus Vines, Crawford G. Carwile, Thomas H. Williams, Francis M. Connell.—4.

CAMP CREEK No. 251.—Green Davis.—1.

RANDOLPH No. 258.—Andrew J. Cox, Rolly Latham, Western Latham —3.

BELLVILLE No. 260.—Jackson Bell.—1.

PEA RIVER No. 271.—Henry Amos, William H. Eagerton.—2.

CLIFTON No. 272.—Eli Yow—1.

RICHMOND No. 282.—William H. Craig—1.

ZION No. 304.—Elisha Vickery, Charles C. Stewart, David Lee, James Lee, John S. Wheeler, Zephaniah Anderson—6.

WARRENTON No. 320.—Thomas J. Conally—1.

PLEASANT HILL No. 321.—Hezekiah R. Self, Willis M. Johnston, William Shearly, Samuel A. G. Walker—4.

MADISON STATION No. 329.—William T. Garner, Joseph D. Williams, William H. Stevens—3.

FORKLAND No. 330.—L—— L. Singleton—1.

JOHNSON No. 337.—Eli N. Ford—1.

ALBERT PIKE No. 339.—John H. Marishal, James S. Barton—2.

ECHO No. 345.—George W. Peacock, Zachariah P. Harrison, Lewis H. Deal—3.

HURTVILLE No. 346.—James P. Crawford—1.

SIPSEY No. 350.—Robert D. Carver—1.

ROCK MILLS No. 353.—Joshua M. Drummond, James W. McDonough, George W. Littlefield—3.

RUSSELLVILLE No. 371.—John D. Hurst, James M. Gast—2.

OHATCHEE No. 380.—William B. Adams—1.

WATERLOO No. 382.—George W. Waters—1.

BEN POPE No. 383.—Levi Worthington—1.

BIRMINGHAM FRATERNAL No. 384.—John C Morrow, John B. Webb—2.

NEWBURGH No. 388.—Thomas J. Mitchell—1.

VERNON No. 389.—Bluford McDaniel, Joseph D. Rush—2.

WEATHERS No. 390.—Hardy Robertson—1.

NORTH BORDER No. 391.—Andrew P. Vaught—1.

HICKORY FLAT No. 392.—John C. Strickland—1.

GREEN HILL No. 402.—James Bretherick—1.

HELENA No. 410.—Burrus A. Warren, John C. Jones—2.

SUSPENDED FOR UNMASONIC CONDUCT.

Henry M. Coggins, July 18.....	Solomon.....	No. 74
Thomas P. Horton, March —	Forest Hill.....	" 110
Samuel H. Brown, August 16.....	Bexar.....	" 230
James F. Deale, February 16.....	Georgiana.....	" 285
Nubal A. Moore, September 28.....	Johnson.....	" 337
Ransom S. Daily, June 1.....	Albert Pike.....	" 339
Henry M. Neill, January 24.....	Gainesville.....	" 375
George W. Mayhall, April 1.....	Falkville.....	" 369
Volley E. Sims, April 1.....		

EXPELLED.

Christopher C. Enloe, May 11	Sawyer	No.	93
Linza Harcrow, November 17, 1877	Lozahatchee	"	97
Miles T. Berry, August 30	Good Samaritan	"	104
William B. Oakley, January 10	Columbia	"	135
Columbus A. Ligon	Brundidge	"	184
William J. Maddox, February 16	Pea River	"	271
Edmund D. Lilly, December 20, 1877	Clifton	"	272
E. W. Garland, December 23, 1877	Scottsboro	"	359
Samuel R. Neill, January 24	Gainesville	"	371
Joseph Madder, June 7	Cullman Fraternal	"	425

LODGES DELINQUENT IN 1878.

FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

Florence	No.	14	Euclid	No.	213
Athens	"	16	Fair Mount	"	238
Marengo	"	28	Toluca	"	249
Mount Moriah	"	55	Gaylesville	"	256
Social	"	63	Wind Creek	"	267
Saint Stephens	"	81	Paint Rock	"	274
Bellefonte	"	82	Bullock	"	276
Danville	"	95	Springville	"	280
Benson	"	103	Fort Deposit	"	291
Good Samaritan	"	104	Summit	"	343
Geneva	"	129	Wilson Williams	"	351
Wiley	"	134	Rock Mills	"	353
Mount Jefferson	"	152	Van Buren	"	355
Eastaboga	"	155	Newtonville	"	360
Somerville	"	157	Town Creek	"	361
Davie	"	176	Chester	"	363
Mount Eagle	"	185	Pleasant Site	"	364
Helicon	"	201	Cotaco	"	366
Moscow	"	206	Lodor	"	374
Ebenezer	"	210	Lake City	"	377
Putnam	"	212	Mineral Spring	"	405

FOR NON-REPRESENTATION.

Macon	No.	7	Dallas	No.	228
Florence	"	14	Fair Mount	"	238
Athens	"	16	Toluca	"	249
Marengo	"	28	Gaylesville	"	256
Leighton	"	43	Wind Creek	"	267
Gaston	"	44	Paint Rock	"	274
Amity	"	54	Frankfort	"	275
Mount Moriah	"	55	Bullock	"	276
Social	"	63	Springville	"	280
Holsey	"	68	Clinton	"	287
Central	"	70	Gillespie	"	290
Crozier	"	78	Fort Deposit	"	291
Saint Stephens	"	81	Charity	"	331
Bellefonte	"	82	Blue Eye	"	332

Danville	No.	95	Oliver	No.	334
Benson	"	103	Nannfalia	"	335
Good Samaritan	"	104	Albert Pike	"	339
Choctaw	"	107	Summit	"	343
Oak Bowery	"	108	Wilson Williams	"	351
Coffeeville	"	122	Rock Mills	"	353
Herndon	"	125	Van Buren	"	355
Geneva	"	129	Newtonville	"	360
Wiley	"	134	Town Creek	"	361
Bladon Spring	"	151	Chester	"	363
Mount Jefferson	"	152	Pleasant Site	"	364
Eastaboga	"	155	Cotaco	"	366
Somerville	"	157	Lodor	"	374
Sumter	"	166	Lake City	"	377
Davie	"	176	Munford	"	385
Mount Eagle	"	185	Blue Spring	"	387
Helicon	"	201	Hickory Flat	"	392
Moscow	"	206	Valley Head	"	394
Pettusville	"	207	Green Hill	"	402
Ebenezer	"	210	Mineral Spring	"	405
York	"	211	North River	"	407
Putnam	"	212	Hillsboro	"	408
Euclid	"	213	Sulphur Spring	"	414
Western Star	"	222	Williamsburg	"	416
Louisville	"	225	Broomtown	"	420

LODGES REINSTATED.

Cokerville	No.	75	Barbour	No.	358
Mount Hilliard	"	180	Ben Pope	"	383
Daviston	"	283	North Border	"	391
Pleasant Hill	"	321			

CHARTERS FORFEITED IN 1878.

Marion	No.	12	Isney	No.	234
Vienna	"	48	John Payne	"	245
Shiloh	"	105	Rose Hill	"	253
Dean	"	112	Jonesboro	"	315
Midway	"	114	Goliad	"	370
Roanoke	"	132	Black Oak	"	397
Chilton	"	139	Pondtown	"	409
Carrollton	"	214			

FORFEITED, REVOKED, AND CONSOLIDATED.

Numbers 2, 5, 12, 13, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 30, 32. 33, 34, 35, 38, 45, 48, 58, 60, 66, 73, 77, 85, 86, 87, 92, 94, 100, 105, 109, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 118, 121, 128, 130, 132, 137, 139, 156, 159, 160, 162, 164, 165, 167, 174, 177, 179, 182, 183, 194, 196, 202, 305, 214, 216, 217, 220, 229, 232, 234, 236, 239, 240, 245, 253, 255, 259, 263, 268, 269, 273 279, 284, 288, 289, 308, 315, 316, 317, 318, 322, 325, 326, 327, 328, 333, 336, 342, 347, 352, 356, 362 370, 372,, 393 397, 401, 409—Total number, 105.

RECAPITULATION.

odges that were represented	216
Members reported at this Grand Communication	7,925
Dues received at this Grand Communication	$4,080 25
Number of Lodges that paid their Dues	254

Work of the Year 1878.

Initiated	348
Passed	315
Raised	308
Affiliated	267
Rejected	66
Dimitted	382
Died	147
Expelled	9
Suspended for Unmasonic Conduct	9
Suspended for Non-payment of Dues	598
Reinstated	211

Condition of the Lodges.

Lodges square upon the Books	221
Lodges delinquent for non-representation	78
Charters forfeited, revoked, and consolidated	105
Army numbers	19
Lodges under Dispensation	3
Whole number at the end of the year	426

CALENDAR OF FULL MOONS,

SHOWING THE

Day of the Week and Month on which every Full Moon Falls, from **January** 1870, *to* **December** 1883, *inclusive.*

Compiled from DeMorgan, by Brother W. B. Laugridge, of Iowa.

Year.	*January.*	*February.*	*March.*	*April.*	*May.*	*June.*	*July.*	*August.*	*September.*	*October.*	*November.*	*December.*
1870	Mo 17	Tu 15	Th 17	Fri 15	Sat 14	Mo 13	Tu 12	Th 11	Fri 9	Su 9	Mo 7	Th 7
1871	Fri 6	Su 5	Mo 6	We 5	Th 4	Sat 3	Su 2	Mo 31	We 30	Th 28	Sat 28	Su 26	Tu 26
1872	Th 24	Sat 23	Su 24	Tu 23	We 22	Fri 21	Sat 20	Su 18	Tu 16	We 16	Tu 15	Su 14
1873	Mo 13	Tu 11	Fri 14	Sat 12	Mo 12	Tu 10	We 9	Fri 8	Sat 6	Su 5	Tu 4	We 3
1874	Fri 2	Su 1	Tu 3	We 1	Fri 1	Su 31	Mo 29	Tu 28	Th 27	Fri 25	Su 25	Mo 23	Tu 22
1875	Th 21	Sat 20	Su 21	Tu 20	Th 20	Fri 18	Su 18	Mo 16	We 15	Th 14	Sat 13	Su 12
1876	Tu 10	We 8	Th 9	Sat 8	Mo 8	Tu 6	Th 6	Fri 4	Sat 3	Tu 3	We 1	Fri 1	Sa 30
1877	Mo 29	Tu 27	Th 29	Fri 27	Su 27	Mo 25	We 25	Th 23	Sat 22	Mo 22	Tu 20	Th 20
1878	Fri 18	Su 17	Mo 18	We 17	Th 16	Fri 14	Su 14	Mo 12	Th 12	Fri 11	Sat 9	Mo 9
[illegible]	We 8	Th 6	Sat 8	Su 6	Mo 5	We 4	Th [illegible]	Sat 2	Su 31	Tu 30	We 29	Fri 28	Sat 28
1880	Tu 26	We 24	Th 25	Sat 24	Mo 24	Tu 22	We 21	Fri 20	Sat 18	Su 17	Tu 16	Th 16
1881	Sat 1	Mo 14	Tu 15	Th 14	Fri 13	Su 12	Mo 11	Tu 9	Th 8	Fri 7	Su 6	Mo 5
1882	We 4	Fri 3	Su 5	Mo 3	We 3	Th 1	Sa 1	Su 30	Mo 28	Tu 26	Th 26	Sat 25	Su 24
1883	Tu 23	Th 22	Fri 23	Su 22	Tu 22	We 20	Fri 20	Sat 18	Su 16	Tu 16	We 14	Fri 14

REGISTER OF LODGES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA.

No	NAME.	LOCATION.	COUNTY.	POST OFFICE.	MASTER.	SECRETARY.	COMMUNICAT'N
1	Hellon	Huntsville	Madison	Huntsville	John L. Rison	William H. Tancre	2 Tuesday
3	Alabama	Claiborne	Monroe	Claiborne	Anthony Shiff	Joseph M. Rothwell	Sat of or bfm
4	Rising Virtue	Tuscaloosa	Tuscaloosa	Tuscaloosa	John Snow	Joseph H. Tyler	2 & 4 Wed
6	Moulton	Moulton	Lawrence	Moulton	DeWitt C. White	Edward C. McDonald	4 Saturday
7	Macon	Grove Hill	Clarke	Grove Hill	Jesse P. Chapman	Richard J. Woodard	4 Saturday
8	Farrar	Elyton	Jefferson	Elyton	Sam Thompson	Robert A. Terrell	1 Saturday
9	Gilead	Butler	Choctaw	Butler	Oliver C. Ulmer	Benjamin A. Warren	3 Saturday
10	Royal White Hart	Clayton	Barbour	Clayton	John A. Foster	Edgar R. Quillin	2 & 4 Sat
11	Montgomery	Montgomery	Montgomery	Montgomery	Daniel Sayre	Calvin W. Sayre	1 & 3 Monday
14	Florence	Florence	Lauderdale	Florence	Alexander C. Chisholm	James R. Price	1 Monday
16	Athens	Athens	Limestone	Athens	Joseph A. Moore	Samuel Tanner	1 Monday
22	Saint Albans	Linden	Marengo	Linden	Henry A. Woolf	Thomas J. Adams	1 Saturday
24	Geo. Washington	Clinton	Greene	Clinton	Newton C. Pyles	Theodore S. McMillian	2 Saturday
25	Dale	Camden	Wilcox	Camden	Lucky W. Jenkins	Francis P. M. Gilbert	We of or bfm
26	La Fayette	Greensboro	Hale	Greensboro	Richard Inge	Alexander H. Williams	3 Tuesday
27	Selma Fraternal	Selma	Dallas	Selma	William T. Daughtry	Adolph Jacobson	1 & 3 Monday
29	Rising Sun	Decatur	Morgan		George D. Mentz	John W. Gordon	1 Tuesday
31	Autauga	Autaugaville	Autauga	Autaugaville	Benjamin F. Davis	Albert W. McNeel	Last Saturday
36	Washington	Tuscumbia	Colbert	Tuscumbia	Felix G. Norman	James H. Simpson	2 Saturday
37	Courtland	Courtland	Lawrence	Courtland	Jacob W. Falk	William S. Puryear	Wed bfm
39	Wetumpka	Wetumpka	Elmore	Wetumpka	Charles A. Sedberry	William S. Penick	Sat of or bfm
40	Mobile	Mobile	Mobile	Mobile	William S. Foster	Frederick Graves	Every Mond'y
41	Livingston	Livingston	Sumter	Livingston	John G. Harris	Isaiah C. Brown	4 Friday
42	Hiram	Jacksonville	Calhoun	Jacksonville	William M. Hames	William H. Dean	1 Monday
43	Leighton	Leighton	Lawrence	Leighton	Joseph M. Kumpe	William McCormack	We bf 1 Sun
44	Gaston	Warsaw	Sumter	Warsaw	John B. Lanford	Clarence Grove	1 Wednesday
46	Harmony	Eufaula	Barbour	Eufaula	James Milton	John C. Thomas	2 & 4 Saturday
47	Warren	Kingston	Autauga	Kingston	William L. Golson	George W. Deramus	3 Saturday
49	Demopolis	Demopolis	Marengo	Demopolis	John H. McKinley	John R. Robertson	1 & 3 Thurs
50	Union	Uniontown	Perry	Uniontown	John W. Bush	John Henry White	2 Thursday
51	Jefferson	Cedar Bluff	Cherokee	Cedar Bluff	Elijah S. Hardwick	George W. Bogan	2 Friday
52	New Market	New Market	Madison	New Market	John P. Whitman	Robert J. Johnson	1 & 3 Sat
53	Greening	Evergreen	Conecuh	Evergreen	George R. Farnham	Young M. Rabb	On or bfm
54	Amity	Eutaw	Greene		John R. Taylor	William T. Callahan	1 Monday
56	Troy	Troy	Pike	Troy	Josiah Jernigan	Joel D. Murphree	1 & 3 Sat
57	Tuskegee	Tuskegee	Macon	Tuskegee	James A. Bilbro	Albert S. Harper	1 & 3 Monday
59	Benton	Benton	Lowndes	Benton	John C. Grumbles	Bernhard Wolff	Saturday bfm
61	Tompkinsville	Tompkinsville	Choctaw	Tompkinsville	William R. Horn	Joseph C. Cahoon	1 Saturday
62	Saint Johns	Union Springs	Bullock	Union Springs	James G. Cowan	William D. Jelks	

64	Eureka	Greenville	Butler	Greenville	Albert W. Metcalf	Adam B Dulin Jr	Every Friday
65	Liberty	Liberty Hill	Dallas	Martin's Station.	Joseph A. Groves	Samuel W. Pegues	4 Friday
67	Hampden Sidney	Robinson's Spr'g	Elmore	Prattville	Andrew W. Rucker	Samuel H. Gibbons	3 Saturday
68	Holsey	Glennville	Russell	Glennville	Americus C. Mitchell	William R. Logan	4 Saturday
69	Howard	Mobile	Mobile	Mobile	Oliver S. Beers	Philip C. Candidus	1 & 3 Tuesday
70	Central	Montevallo	Shelby	Montevallo	Thomas B. McCloskey.	George W. Rogan	Sat bfm
71	Tohopeka	Dadeville	Tallapoosa	Dadeville	Allen D Sturdivant	Berthold Sternberg	3 Saturday
72	Widow's Son	Snow Hill	Wilcox	Snow Hill	George A. Barge	James P. Speirs	Sat bfm
74	Solomon	La Fayette	Chambers.	La Fayette	Samuel P. Greer	James E. Scarborough	1 & 3 Saturday
75	Cokerville	Cokerville	Monroe	Cokerville	William D. Garrett	John W. Cobb	
76	Auburn	Auburn	Lee	Auburn	George P. Harrison Jr	Patrick H. Swanson	1 & 3 Friday
78	Crozier	White Plains	Calhoun	White Plains	William Johnston	James S. Slaughter	Sat bf 3 Sab
79	Fredonia	Fredonia	Chambers	Fredonia	William J. Grady	George A. Hilt	Friday bfm
80	Wilcox	Allenton	Wilcox	Allenton	Joseph B. McWilliams	Joseph Benson	Fri of or bfm
82	Bellefonte	Bellefonte	Jackson	Bellefonte	Nelson Kyle	George W. Angel	4 Friday
83	Friendship	Centreville	Bibb	Centreville	James W. Crawford	Edward C Cleveland.	1 Saturday
84	Erophotle	Bragg's Store	Lowndes	Bragg's Store	Alfred H Lee	William H. McFerrin	Sat bfm
88	Meridian Sun	Pleasant Hill	Dallas	Pleasant Hill	Aaron Maas	William R. Smyly	Fri of or bfm
89	Prattville	Prattville	Autauga	Prattville	Llewelyn Spigener	Jacob Faber	Mon of or bfm
90	Pfister	McKinley	Marengo	McKinley	William B. Jackson Jr.	Francis M. Dansby	1 Wednesday
91	Henry	Abbeville	Henry	Abbeville	Edward Blackidge	James W. Stokes	2 & 4 Saturday
93	Sawyer	Wedowee	Randolph	Wedowee	John Reaves	William E. Connelly	2 Saturday
96	Tuckabatchee	Crawford	Russell	Crawford	David D. Kent	Stephen S. Brinson	2 & 4 Saturday
97	Lozahatchee	Goshen	Cherokee	Ladiga, Calh	James M. Amberson	Hampton W. Glover	Sat bf 3 Sab
98	Fulton	Orrville	Dallas	Orrville	Benjamin F. Ellis	James E. Kennedy	3 Friday
99	Salem	Salem	Lee	Salem	Daniel W. Floyd	Thomas J. Key	2 & 4 Saturd'y
101	Hartwell	Oxford	Calhoun	Oxford	Stephen C. Williams	Thomas H. Barry	4 Saturday
102	Newbern	Newbern	Hale	Newbern	Selby Hardenbergh	Samuel Elchold	3 Tuesday
104	Good Samaritan	Dudleyville	Tallapoosa	Dudleyville	Charles H. Sims	William C. Jenkins	Sat bf 1 Sab
105	Shiloh	Hampden	Marengo	Hampden	Henry M. Jones	Joseph E. Smyly	3 Saturday
106	Hermon	Sumterville	Sumter	Sumterville	Benjamin F. Hendon	William H. Brown	Sat bfm
107	Choctaw	Pushmataha	Choctaw	Pushmataha	James A. Gilder	Joseph M. Gilder	4 Saturday
108	Oak Bowery	Oak Bowery	Chambers	Gold Hill, Lee	Richard P. Lockhart	John T. Hester	1 & 3 Saturd'y
110	Forest Hill	Pleasant Grove	Pickens	Pleasant Grove	Joseph P. Barnett	Louis A. Lavender	2 Saturday
111	Sylvan	Sylvan	Tuscaloosa	Sylvan	J. Collier Foster	A. Fuller Prince	3 Saturday
112	Dean	Brooklyn	Conecuh	Brooklyn	Andrew J. Robinson	Aaron P. Feagin	2 Saturday
117	Perryville	Perryville	Perry	Perryville	Thomas L. Vaughn	George W. Pardue	3 Saturday
119	Notasulga	Notasulga	Macon	Notasulga	Benjamin F. Johnson	Lucius C. Ramsey	2 & 4 Saturd'y
120	Camp Hill	Camp Hill	Tallapoosa	Camp Hill	Walter R. Dawson	Rolla R. Spinks	2 Saturday
122	Coffeeville	Coffeeville	Clarke	Coffeeville	Thomas J. Cowan	Andrew J. Pace	4 Saturday
123	Havana	Havana	Hale	Havana	George H. Sheldon	William S. Bishop	1 Wednesday
124	Felix	Midway	Bullock	Midway	Charles Alley	Mealing E. Pruett	Tu af 2 & 4 Sat
125	Herndon	Union	Greene	Union	Edward H. Lamb	James T. Smith	4 Saturday
126	Mortimer Reeder	Rock Spring	Lee	Loachapoka	Mortimer Reeder	Samuel A. Burns	2 & 4 Saturd'y

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No	NAME.	LOCATION.	COUNTY.	POST OFFICE.	MASTER.	SECRETARY.	COMMUNICAT'N
132	Bolivar	Stevenson	Jackson	Stevenson	William M. Cowan	Mike Graham	1 & 3 Friday
134	Yorkville	Yorkville	Pickens	Yorkville	Samuel C. Nabers	Washington Pridmore	1 Saturday
135	Loachapoka	Loachapoaka	Lee	Loachapoka	Wiley W. Bloodworth	John W. Peddy	2 & 4 Tuesday
135	Columbia	Columbia	Henry	Columbia	Abram W. Elliot	Harrison Purcell	2 & 4 Sat
136	Unity	Lower Peach Tree	Wilcox	Lower Peach Tree	Kossuth A. Mayer	David P. Hicks	4 Saturday
137	Bradford	Kellyton	Coosa	Kellyton	Stephen M. Pearson	Joseph B. Simpson	2 Saturday
140	Shelby	Columbiana	Shelby	Columbiana	John S. Leeper, S. W.	James T. Leeper	Last Sat
141	Bethel	Arbacoochee	Cleburne	Arbacoochee	Robert U. McCaghren	Elijah A. Teague	1 Thursday
142	Baldwin	Stockton	Baldwin	Stockton	James H. Vaughn	George W. Robinson	2 Saturday
143	Burleson	Burleson	Franklin	Burleson	William H. Thorn	Robert W. Wilson	1 Saturday
144	Daleville	Daleville	Dale	Daleville	Isaac B. Thompson	Daniel R. Thomas	1 Saturday
145	Fraternity	Blountsville	Blount	Blountsville	William F. Dickinson	Aquilla J. Ketchum	1 & 3 Sat
146	Missouri	Perote	Bullock	Perote	James W. Crossley	William A. Walker	3 Saturday
147	Rodgersville	Rodgersville	Lauderdale	Rodgersville	Joseph Ingram	William J. T. Stapler	1 Saturday
148	Cold Water	Vance's Station	Tuscaloosa	Smallwood	Michael Y. Hayes	William Vance	Sat bf 3 Sab
149	Chambers	Milltown	Chambers	Milltown	Benjamin J. Foster	Benjamin H. Pearson	1 Saturday
150	Etam	Marion Junction	Dallas	Marion Junction	Calvin L. Harrell	George J. Boswell	Sat afm
151	Bladen Springs	Bladen Springs	Choctaw	Bladen Springs	George H. McKee	George W. Knight	3 Saturday
152	Mount Jefferson	Shady Grove	Lee	Opelika	Alsa M. Hundley	Wiley W. Jones	3 Saturday
153	Monroeville	Monroeville	Monroe	Monroeville	John DeLoach	Frank M. Jones	Sat bf 3 Sab
154	Nixburg	Nixburg	Coosa	Nixburg	William L. Johnson	John J. Bryant	Sat bf 1 Sab
155	Eastaboga	Eastaboga	Talladega	Eastaboga	Andrew Jackson	Alonzo Montgomery	3 Saturday
158	Maysville	Maysville	Madison	Maysville	Thomas J. Taylor	William L. Giles	Fri on or bfm
161	Penick	Pleasant Grove	Elmore	Central Institute	William C. Cousins	William C. Still	Sat on or bfm
163	Fay'v'e Anth'ntic	Fayetteville	Talladega	Fayetteville	Kinlon J. Thomas	Michael S. Bennett	2 Saturday
166	Sumter	Gaston	Sumter	Gaston	Charles F. Threadgill	John N. Gilmore	2 Saturday
168	Mount Hope	Mount Hope	Lawrence	Mount Hope	Benjamin F. McGaughy	Samuel H. Radford	Sat bf 2 Sab
169	Buena Vista	Sardis	Bullock	Union Springs	William A. Martin	John B. Martin	3 Saturday
170	Elba	Elba	Coffee	Elba	John B. Simmons	Morgan G Stoudenmier	1 Saturday
171	Clopton	Barnes' X Roads	Dale	Barnes' X Roads	John H. Weed	William Patterson	2 & 4 Sat
172	Fellowship	Fellowship	Pickens	Reform	Elias A. Brown	Gideon R. Langdon	4 Saturday
173	Andrew Jackson	Montgomery	Montgomery	Montgomery	John Gindrat Winter	Charles A. Allen	1 & 3 Tues
176	Ezel	Dublin	Montgomery	Ralf Branch	Oliver C. Rushton	David M. Huffman	4 Saturday
178	De-sotoville	De-sotoville	Choctaw	De-sotoville	Simeon Walton	John C. Christopher	3 Saturday
180	Mount Hilliard	Mount Hilliard	Bullock		George H. Harris	Lloyd J. Williams	2 & 4 Sat
181	Aberfoil	Aberfoil	Bullock	Aberfoil	Micajah L. Stinson	Roderick Bethune	1 Saturday
184	Brundidge	Brundidge	Pike	Brundidge	Gustavus Hendrick	William C. Anderson	1 & 3 Sat
186	Catawba	Ashville	St. Clair	Ashville	Davis E. Cason	George W. Morris	Sat bfm
187	Landmark	Knoxville	Greene	Knoxville	Richard D. Lucius	John S. Colvir	3 Saturday

188	Clintonville	Clintonville	Coffee	Clintonville	Alfred McGee	Norman A. Campbell	3 Saturday
189	Delta	Kizer Hill	Choctaw	Nicholson's Store	James M. Dillard	Henry H. Graham	2 Saturday
190	Tombigbee	Jefferson	Marengo	Jefferson	John W. Jones	Charles E. Hudson	3 Saturday
191	Brush Creek	Brush Creek	Perry	Brush Creek	Thomas F. Hall	William T. Boyd	Sat bfm
192	Chambers	Dublin	Chambers	Osanippa	James R. P. Chambers	Timothy Collins	2 & 4 Sat
193	Hopewell	Hopewell	Bullock	Mitchell	George Stowers	Phillip F. Mitchell	1 Sat&Frbf3Sa
195	Opelika	Opelika	Lee	Opelika	William J. Samford	Milton F. Echols	2 Tuesday
197	Hillabee	Good Water	Coosa	Good Water	Martin G. Slaughter	Joseph D. Smith	Sat bf 2 Sab
198	Calhoun	Gordon	Henry	Gordon	Clarence L. McCartha	Josephus S. Beard	2 & 4 Sat
199	Killgore	Chanahatchee	Elmore	Chanahatchee	Nathan Landers	Thomas J. McDonald	3 Saturday
200	Sylacauga	Sylacauga	Talladega	Sylacauga	Lewis H. Crumpler	James M. Lanning	3 Saturday
203	Valley	Waccoochee Valley	Lee	Waccoochee	Oswell Albright	William Cross	1 & 3 Sat
204	Manning Spring	Manning Spring	Montgomery	Pike Road	James McDade	Charles E. McDade	2 & 4 Sat
205	Pettusville	Elkmont	Limestone	Elkmont	William W. Phillips	James O. Dawson	2 Friday
208	Alexandria	Alexandria	Calhoun	Alexandria	William P. Cooper	Emmett F. Crook	Sat bf 4 Sab
209	Marshall	Guntersville	Marshall	Guntersville	Solomon Palmer	Thomas B. Lusk	Sat on or bfm
215	Planter's Institute	Planter's Institute	Talladega	Alpine	Claborn H. Gorman	Richard E. Cook	1 Saturday
218	Sand Dixon	Centre	Cherokee	Centre	Reuben T Ewing	Thomas McElrath	1 Saturday
219	Lineville	Lineville	Clay	Lineville	Edmund B. Stephens	Robert Griffin	3 Saturday
221	Tensaw	Montgomery Hill	Baldwin	Tensaw	Adolph Feist	Robert W. Slaughter	4 Saturday
222	Western Star	Cuba Station	Sumter	Cuba Station	Isaac R. McElroy, Sr	Henry H. Andrews	1 Saturday
223	Sandy Ridge	Sandy Ridge	Lowndes	Sandy Ridge	William W. Stone	Andrew J. Perry	Sat bf 2 Sab
224	Newton	Newton	Dale	Newton	Richard A. Ramsey	John R. Kelly	1 & 3 Sat
225	Louisville	Louisville	Barbour	Louisville	James Lang	Christopher C. Lee	1 & 3 Sat
226	Santa Fe	Jackson	Clarke	Jackson	John C. Chapman	Isham Kimball	3 Saturday
227	James Penn	Clopton	Dale	Clopton	William H. Stuckey	Jesse T Hammack	4 Saturday
228	Dallas	Chulafinne	Cleburne	Chulafinne	Kinchen Morris	James T. Rusk	3 Saturday
230	Bexar	Bexar	Marion	Bexar	John Arnold	Joseph P. Rainey	3 Saturday
231	Duck Spring	Duck Spring	Etowah	Green Wood	Francis M. Tabor	William B. Beeson	3 Saturday
233	Sepulga	Starlington	Butler	Georgiana	Daniel D. Bennett	Joseph Bennett	3 Saturday
235	Harpersville	Harpersville	Shelby	Harpersville	John W. Pitts	William R. Singleton	4 Saturday
237	Tallassee	East Tallassee	Tallapoosa	Tallassee	John F. Ashurst	Solomon T. Strickland	Sat bfm
241	Bowen	Whistler	Mobile	Whistler	Theodore Tiedeman	Thomas Halliwell	1 & 3 Thurs
242	Coosa	Buyckville	Elmore	Sykes' Mill	Isaac C. Hall	W. K. Whetstone	2 Saturday
243	Ramer	Ramer	Montgomery	Ramer	Anthony H. Sellers	John T. Sentell	3 Saturday
244	Dawson	Oaky Streak	Butler	Oaky Streak	Joseph S. Sanders	John T. Watson	Sat bf 1& 3Sab
246	Harrison	Henderson	Pike	Little Oak	John A. Law	Henry M. Bradley	4 Saturday
247	Cropwell	Cropwell	Saint Clair	Easonville	James D. Truss	Lealis Law	4 Saturday
248	Lawrence	Lawrenceville	Henry	Lawrenceville	Newell M. Thornton	Nathaniel L. Hawley	2 Saturday
250	Amand	Chestnut Creek	Chilton	Cooper's Station	Moses D. Pinson	William G. Easterling	4 Saturday
251	Camp Creek	Honoraville	Crenshaw	Honoraville	Arnold Kent	Arrington C. Nichols	1 Saturday
252	North Port	North Port	Tuscaloosa	North Port	Henry H. Brown	Josiah H. Freeman	3 Saturday
253	Rose Hill	Rose Hill	Covington		Seaborn A. Dauphin	Henry H. Rowell	4 Saturday
254	Quitman	East Georgia	Butler	Georgiana	Philo D. Rigsby	Thomas M. J. Porter	4 Saturday

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256	Gaylesville	Gaylesville	Cherokee	Gaylesville	Abbott M. McWhorter	Leonidas D. Griffitts	4 Friday
257	Ervin	Holly Grove	Walker	Holly Grove	David Manasco	George W. McDade	4 Saturday
258	Randolph	Randolph	Bibb	Randolph	Reden D. Hicks	William J. Ruddick	Sat on or bfm
259	Magnolia	Mobile	Mobile	Mobile	Thomas A. Boon	Andrew B. Nelson	2 Wednesday
260	Bellville	Bellville	Conecuh	Bellville	Anthony D. Sampey	Charles A. Newton	Sat bf 2 Sab
261	Talladega	Talladega	Talladega	Talladega	James H. Joiner	Henry H. Hamil	1 Friday
262	Highland	Highland	Shelby	Highland	Robert F. Johnson	John Acton	1 Saturday
264	Walnut Grove	Walnut Grove	Etowah	Walnut Grove	John H. Campbell	Jesse E. Murphree	4 Saturday
265	Meridian	Meridianville	Madison	Bell Factory	John M. Humphrey	James M. Jones	1 Friday
266	Mount Pleasant	Mount Pleasant	Monroe	Mount Pleasant	Joseph W. Shomo	William M. Ferrell	2 Saturday
270	Butler Springs	Monterey	Butler	Monterey	Thomas H. Barge	John H. Luckie	Sat bf 3 Sab
271	Pea River	Victoria	Coffee	Victoria	William T. Chapman	John E. Bishop	3 Saturday
272	Clifton	Clifton	Wilcox	Clifton	William A. Kimbrough	Hamilton A. Ratcliffe	1 Saturday
275	Frankfort	Frankfort	Franklin	Frankfort	Amos L. Moody	William R. Petree	Sat bf 2 Sab
277	Larkinsville	Larkinsville	Jackson	Larkinsville	James H. Boyd	John B. Harris	1 & 3 Sat
278	Northern	New Hope	Madison	New Hope	Joseph F. Ellett	George W. Childers	Sat on or bfm
281	Chas. Baskerville	Fayette C. H	Fayette	Fayette C. H	George W. Julian	Gustavus Legg	Sat bf 4 Sab
282	Richmond	Richmond	Dallas	Richmond	William T. Wade	George W. Cowan	Th on or bfm
283	Daviston	Daviston	Tallapoosa	Daviston	Green B. Watts	John Motley	1 & 3 Sat
285	Georgiana	Georgiana	Butler	Georgiana	Pinkney M. Bruner	Elisha C. Milner	1 & 3 Sat
286	Walker	Arkadelphia	Blount	Arkadelphia	Charles Drennen	Doctor S. Rice	Sat bf 2 Sab
287	Clinton	Skipperville	Dale	Skipperville	Robert D. Reynolds	James M. Dixon	2 & 4 Sat
290	Gillespie	Gillespie	Fayette	Handy	William Berry	William M. Enis	Sat bf 1 Sab
301	Norris	Pollard	Escambia	Pollard	William J. O'Bannon	John B. McLellan	1 Saturday
304	Zion	Pine Grove Ch'rch	Fayette	Montcalm	Terrell M. Reese	Nathan A. Musgrove	Sat bf 3 Sab
305	Central City	Selma	Dallas	Selma	George R. Boyd	Garner M McConnico	2 & 4 Wed
315	Jonesboro	Jonesboro	Jefferson	Jonesboro	Frank Prince	Thomas McAdory	2 Saturday
319	Cluttsville	Cluttsville	Madison	Cluttsville	William A. Pettus	Benjamin F. Laxson	4 Saturday
320	Warrenton	Warrenton	Marshall	Warrenton	James L. Sheffield	John H. Fennell	Sat on or bfm
321	Pleasant Hill	Haley's	Marion	Ireland Hill	Lang C. Allen	Peter A. Wylie	Sat bf 1 Sab
323	Holly Grove	Holly Grove	Jackson	Princeton	Scott Peters	James H. Cowan	2 & 4 Sat
324	Viola	Chepultepec	Blount	Chepultepec	William H. Edwards	William G. Crump	2 Saturday
329	Madison Station	Madison Station	Madison	Madison Station	George R Sullivan	John H. Dunn	1 Saturday
330	Forkland	Forkland	Greene	Forkland	George C. Arrington	Abraham Barnett	Th bfm
331	Charity	Six Mile	Bibb	Montevallo	Pleasant M. Fancher	Edward M. Carleton	2 Saturday
332	Blue Eye	Lincoln	Talladega	Lincoln	Thomas J. Brewer	James M. Montgomery	2 Saturday
334	Oliver	Choctaw Corner	Clarke	Choctaw Corner	Horatio C. Grayson	Stephen M. Gilmore	1 Saturday
335	Nanafalia	Nanafalia	Marengo	Nanafalia	Albert G. Westbrook	David P. Barr	3 Saturday
337	Johnson	Mount Ida	Crenshaw	New Providence	John D. Massey	Henry D. Curtis	3 Saturday

338	Georgiana Davis	Trussville	Jefferson	Trussville	Thomas McCluney	Dyer N. Talley	Sat bf 4 Sab
339	Albert Pike	Cherokee	Colbert	Cherokee	James M. Huston	William H. Avery	Tues b/m
340	Clear Creek	Sardis Church	Winston	Larissa	George D. Wilson	Thomas G. Dupree	1 Saturday
341	Reagan	Davisville	Calhoun	Davisville	David A. Wright	William E. Bowling	Th bf 4 Sab
344	Pikeville	Pikeville	Marion	Pikeville	Meredith T. Akers	Madison M. Frazier	4 Saturday
345	Echo	Echo	Dale	Echo	William E. Matthews	Calvin Barnes	2 & 4 Sat
346	Hurtville	Hurtville	Russell	Hurtville	Charles D. Hurt	Edward N. Brown	3 Saturday
348	Blenville	Mobile	Mobile	Mobile	Palmer J. Pillans	Benton C. Rain	1 & 3 Tues
349	Ozark	Ozark	Dale	Ozark	Avent W. Cotton	Elmore W. Griffith	1 & 3 Sat
350	Sipsey	Corinth	Tuscaloosa	Sipsey Turnpike	James Mills Jr	James F. Williams	Sat bf 1 Sab
351	Wilson Williams	Girard	Lee	Lively	James T. Holland	John W. Hodo	2 & 4 Thurs
353	Rock Mills	Rock Mills	Randolph	Rock Mills	George W. Taylor	Charles W. Eichelberge	2 & 4 Sat
354	Heaton	Carter's Store	Randolph	Carter's Store	Burrell J. Wood	William D. Heaton	2 & 4 Sat
357	Rutledge	Rutledge	Crenshaw	Rutledge	John A. Padgett	Edmund H. Johnson	2 Saturday
358	Barbour	Hull	Tuscaloosa	Hull	John D. Blocker	Thomas J. Farmer	2 Saturday
359	Scottsboro	Scottsboro	Jackson	Scottsboro	Jonathan F. Finney	Lorenzo D. Burgess	1 Friday
364	Pleasant Site	Pleasant Site	Franklin	Pleasant Site	James C. George	James H. Drake	3 Saturday
365	Houston	Houston	Winston	Houston	James D. Lane	George W. Hilton	2 Saturday
367	Chandler	Edwardsville	Cleburne	Edwardsville	Thomas J. Burton	William B. Ferguson	1 Mon & 3 Sat
368	Cross Plains	Cross Plains	Calhoun	Cross Plains	Alexander McCollister	Francis M. Savage	Sat bf 4 Sab
369	Athelstan	Mobile	Mobile	Mobile	Thomas P. Brewer	Gabriel L. Long	Every Th
371	Russellville	Russellville	Franklin	Russellville	John Thompson	John W. White	Sat bf 3 Sab
373	Bell's Landing	Bell's Landing	Monroe	Bell's Landing	William H. Abernethy	Alexander T. Howard	Sat bf 1 Sab
374	Loder	Seale	Russell	Seale	Charles L. Williams	Edward H. Glenn	2 & 4 Sat
375	Gainesville	Gainesville	Sumter	Gainesville	Edward N. Kring	Robert G. Neilson	Sat b/m
376	Sauta Creek	Hillian's Store	Marshall	Hillian's Store	John G. Winston Jr.	Robert T. McCormack	Friday b/m
378	Weogufka	Weogufka	Coosa	Stewartville	James T. Thompson	Francis M. McEwen	Sat b/m
379	Robert E. Lee	Pine Apple	Wilcox	Pine Apple	David W. Ramsey	Louis Steiner	2 Saturday
380	Ohatchee	Peck's Hill	Calhoun	Peck's Hill	John A. Glenn	Henry F. Montgomery	Sat bf 3 Sab
381	E. H. Cook	Rehoboth	Wilcox	Rehoboth	John H. Malone	John W. Gaston	2 Thursday
382	Waterloo	Waterloo	Lauderdale	Waterloo	Hiram Richardson	Oliver P. Tucker	Sat on or b/m
383	Ben Pope	Attalla	Etowah	Attalla	Nathan S. Bond	John W. Duncan	2 Saturday
384	Birm'h'm Frater'l	Birmingham	Jefferson	Birmingham	Julian L. Lockwood	Peter Holzschuher	2 & 4 Mon
385	Munford	Munford	Talladega	Munford	Robert T. Conley	John J. Weatherly	2 Saturday
386	Trinity	Trinity	Morgan	Trinity Station	Jasper N. Wade	William Q. Sewell	Sat of or b/m
387	Blue Spring	Blue Spring	Henry	Gordon	Thomas S. Stapleton	Joseph Irvin	1 & 3 Sat
388	Newburgh	Newburgh	Franklin	Newburgh	Wesley M. Smith	Thomas H. Moore	Sat bf 4 Sab
389	Vernon	Vernon	Lamar	Vernon	Thomas W. Springfield	Martin W. Morton	1 Saturday
390	Weathers	Wesobulga	Clay	Blake's Ferry	James W. Swann	Martin V. Mullins	Sat b/m
391	North Border	Salem Church	Limestone	Mount Rozelle	Thomas F. George	James C. Gordon	1 Saturday
392	Hickory Flat	Hickory Flat	Chambers	Hickory Flat	Andrew J. Thompson	Nathaniel E. Baker	1 & 3 Sat
394	Valley Head	Valley Head	De Kalb	Valley Head	James M. Price	George M. D. Lowry	4 Friday
395	Opelika	Opelika	Lee	Opelika	Isaac Heyman	Heineman Blumenfeld	1 & 3 Th
396	Falkville	Falkville	Morgan	Falkville	James T. Morris	Felix G. Srygley	Sat of or b/m

REGISTER OF LODGES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA.

No	NAME.	LOCATION.	COUNTY.	POST OFFICE.	MASTER.	SECRETARY.	COMMUNICAT'S
397	Black Oak	South Hill	DeKalb	South Hill	Jacob B. Wilbanks	George H. Kirtland	3 Saturday
398	Hartselle	Hartselle	Morgan	Hartselle	John F. Turney	Andrew A. Oden	2 Saturday
399	Haw Ridge	Haw Ridge	Coffee	Haw Ridge	John C. Jolly	Samuel D. Clark	4 Saturday
400	Hanceville	Hanceville	Blount	Hanceville	Derrell Cone	James P. Green	2 Saturday
402	Green Hill	Green Hill	Lauderdale	Green Hill	Elias M. McDonald	Fernando S. McDonald	Sat of or bfm
403	Childersburg	Childersburg	Talladega	Childersburg	Richard E. R. Hicks	Henry J. Clett	Sat bf 3 Sab
404	Hoboken	Hoboken	Marengo	Hoboken	Stephen S. Etheredge	Edmond D. Little	1 Saturday
406	Dorle	Tallassee	Elmore	Tallassee	Benjamin F. Barnes	James K. Polk	Saturday afm
407	North River	North River	Tuscaloosa	North River	Samuel T. Brown	Richard F. Gibson	Sat bf 2 Sab
408	Hillsboro	Hillsboro	Lawrence	Hillsboro	Benjamin M. Simpson	Robert F. Bentley	Sat on or afm
410	Helena	Helena	Shelby	Helena	Thomas Cleary	Horace W. Bowers	2 & 4 Sat
411	Jemison	Jemison	Chilton	Jemison	Hiram M. Hays	Azariah C. Ward	Sat. on or bfm
412	Amberson	Amberson	Cherokee	Spring Garden	Thomas H. Amberson	Thomas N. White	Sat bf 1 Sab
413	High Shoals	High Shoals	Randolph	High Shoals	Bird H. Ford	William Weathers	1 & 3 Sat
414	Sulphur Spring	Hanna Spring	DeKalb	Smith, Geo	James H. Conant	John B. Bell	Th bfm
415	Oak Level	Oak Level	Cleburne	Oak Level	James P. Lawler	Wilson P. Howell	Sat bf 2 & 3 Sab
416	Williamsburg	Williamsburg	Jefferson	Birmingham	Calvary Williams	John E. Williams	4 Saturday
417	George Smith	Toad Vine	Jefferson	Toad Vine	Jacob Smith	Samuel J. Huey	3 Saturday
419	Hilton	Blooming Grove	Walker	Clear Cr'k Falls	James Hilton	Benjamin F. Tingle	4 Saturday
420	Broomtown	Broomtown	Cherokee	Broomtown	Arnold Shamblin	Richard F. Selman	4 Friday
421	Cullman Frat'n'l	Cullman	Cullman	Cullman	Richard H. L. Whorton	John M. Wheat	1 & 3 Fri
422	Shorterville	Shorterville	Henry	Shorterville	Thomas B. Clark	Reason W. Irwin	Sat bf 1&3 Sab
423	Clanton	Clanton	Chilton	Clanton	William D. Sartor	Isaac D. Lanier	1 Saturday
424	George Wilson	York Station	Sumter	York Station	James M. Peteet	Robert D. Hoot	4 Tuesday
425	Temple	Marion	Perry	Marion	John G. Apsey	Nathaniel T. Green	1 & 3 Monday

GRAND SECRETARIES AND THEIR ADDRESS.

0.	Alabama	Daniel Sayre	Montgomery.
1.	Arkansas	Luke E. Barber	Little Rock.
2.	California	Alexander Gurdon Abell	San Francisco.
3.	Colorado	Edward C. Parmelee	Georgetown.
4.	Connecticut	Joseph K. Wheeler	Hartford.
5.	Delaware	William S. Hayes	Wilmington.
6.	District of Columbia	William R. Singleton	Washington.
7.	Florida	DeWitt C. Dawkins	Jacksonville.
8.	Georgia	James Emmett Blackshear	Macon.
9.	Illinois	John F. Burrill	Springfield.
10.	Indiana	William H. Smythe	Indianapolis.
11.	Iowa	Theodore S. Parvin	Iowa City.
12.	Kansas	John Henry Brown	Wyandotte.
13.	Kentucky	Hiram Bassett	Louisville.
14.	Louisiana	James C. Batchelor	New Orleans.
15.	Maine	Ira Berry	Portland.
16.	Maryland	Jacob H. Medairy	Baltimore.
17.	Massachusetts	Tracy P. Cheever	Boston.
18.	Michigan	Ellery I. Garfield	Detroit.
19.	Minnesota	Azariah T. C. Pierson	Saint Paul.
20.	Mississippi	John L. Power	Jackson.
21.	Missouri	John D. Vincil	Saint Louis.
22.	Nebraska	William R. Bowen	Omaha.
23.	Nevada	John D. Hammond	Carson.
24.	New Hampshire	George P. Cleaves	Concord.
25.	New Jersey	Joseph H. Hough	Trenton.
26.	New York	James M. Austin	New York.
27.	North Carolina	Donald W. Bain	Raleigh.
28.	Ohio	John D. Caldwell	Cincinnati.
29.	Oregon	Rocky P. Earhart	Portland.
30.	Pennsylvania	John Thomson	Philadelphia.
31.	Rhode Island	Edwin Baker	Providence.
32.	South Carolina	Charles Inglesby	Charleston.

33.	Tennessee	John Frizzell	Nashville.
34.	Texas	George H. Bringhurst	Houston.
35.	Vermont	Henry Clark	Rutland.
36.	Virginia	William Bryan Isaacs	Richmond.
37.	West Virginia	Odell S. Long	Wheeling.
38.	Wisconsin	John Wesley Woodhull	Milwaukee.
39.	Dakota	Charles T. McCoy	Bon Homme.
40.	Idaho	Charles Himrod	Boise City.
41.	Montana	Cornelius Hedges	Helena.
42.	New Mexico	David J. Miller	Santa Fe.
43.	Utah	Christopher Diehl	Salt Lake City.
44.	Washington	Thomas Milburne Reed	Olympia.
45.	Wyoming	William G. Tonn	Evanston.
46.	Indian Territory	W. A. McBride	Atoka.
47.	Canada	John J. Mason	Hamilton, Ont.
48.	New Brunswick	William F. Bunting	Saint John.
49.	Nova Scotia	Benjamin Curren	Halifax.
50.	Quebec	John Helder Isaacson	Montreal.
51.	British Columbia	Coote M. Chambers	Victoria.
52.	Manitoba	John H. Bell	Winnepeg.
53.	Prince Edward Island	B. Wilson Higgs	Charlottetown.
54.	England	John Hervey	London.
55.	Ireland	Samuel B. Oldham, Dep	Dublin.
56.	Scotland	D. Murray Lyon	Edinborough.
57.	Brazil	Alexander F. DeAmaral	Rio Janerio.
58.	Chili	Jose Maldonado	Valparaiso.
59.	Peru	Charles Prince	Lima.
60.	Spain	Pedro Pablo Castanera, 33°	Salud 6, Madrid.
61.	Hungary	Francis Belanyi	Budapest v. Josephsplatz, No. 11.
62.	New South Wales	Nicholas Weekes	Sidney, Australia

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GRAND OFFICERS AND THEIR ADDRESS

FOR 1878-79.

HENRY CLAY ARMSTRONG..	Notasulga..	Grand Master.
HENRY C. TOMPKINS.....	Montgomery.	Deputy Grand Master.
RUFUS W. COBB	Montgomery	Senior Grand Warden.
JOHN H. BANKHEAD	Moscow....	Junior Grand Warden.
WILLIAM H. DINGLEY....	Montgomery	Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE	Montgomery	Grand Secretary.
REV. WILLIAM C. BLEDSOE	LaFayette.	Grand Chaplain
JOSEPH H. KUMPE.	Leighton.....	Grand Marshal.
JOSEPH A. ADAMS.....	Newton	Senior Grand Deacon.
JOHN W. JONES..... ...	Jefferson	Junior Grand Deacon.
ADAM R. BAKER	Montgomery	Grand Steward.
JOHN W. MARTIN.....	Montgomery.	Grand Steward.
JAMES DAVIDSON.....	Montgomery	Grand Tiler.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

OLIVER S. BEERS..... .... MOBILE.

NOTICE TO SECRETARIES OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

☞ Every Lodge shall elect its officers at the regular Communication immediately preceding the Festival in June, *and make due return to the Grand Secretary* as soon as the officers are installed, which shall take place as soon as practicable thereafter. *Constitution of the Grand Lodge*, Art'e VI, Section 16.

In case Secretaries of Subordinate Lodges should not receive BLANK RETURNS by the 1st of October, or if they should fail to receive these Proceedings in a reasonable time, they are requested to write for them, and inform the Grand Secretary how to forward them.

The Annual Communication of "The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama and its Masonic Jurisdiction," is held in the New Masonic Temple, in the City of Montgomery, on the first Monday in December of each and every year.

☞ *Duplicates of these Proceedings will be sent by separate mail to Secretaries and Grand Secretaries, unless they write for the same, in time previous to the regular Communication, and inform the Grand Secretary where to direct them, and whether by mail or express.*

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA,

FOR

1879.

☞ Grand Secretaries and others, out of the State, receiving these Proceedings are requested to acknowledge by P. C., over *written* signature.

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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

OF THE

GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA,

HELD IN THE

CITY OF MONTGOMERY,

COMMENCING DECEMBER 1st, A. D. 1879, A. L. 5879.

MONTGOMERY, ALA. :
BARRETT & BROWN, STEAM PRINTERS AND BOOK BINDERS.
1880.

PROCEEDINGS.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama and its Masonic Jurisdiction, commenced the Fifty-ninth Annual Grand Communication at the New Masonic Temple, in the City of Montgomery, on the Evening of Monday, the 1st day of December, A. D. 1879, A. L. 5879.

PRESENT:

HENRY CLAY ARMSTRONG	Grand Master.
HENRY C. TOMPKINS	Deputy Grand Master.
RUFUS W. COBB	Senior Grand Warden.
JOHN H. BANKHEAD	Junior Grand Warden.
WILLIAM H. DINGLEY	Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE	Grand Secretary.
REV. WILLIAM C. BLEDSOE	Grand Chaplain.
JOSEPH H. KUMPE	Grand Marshal.
JOSEPH A. ADAMS	Senior Grand Deacon.
JOHN W. JONES	Junior Grand Deacon.
ADAM R. BAKER	Grand Steward.
JOHN W. MARTIN	Grand Steward.
JAMES DAVIDSON	Grand Tiler.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS:

DAVID CLOPTON	Grand Master.
WILSON WILLIAMS	Grand Master.
JOSEPH H. JOHNSON	Grand Master.
ISAIAH A. WILSON	Grand Master.
PALMER J. PILLANS	Grand Master.
SAM THOMPSON	Deputy Grand Master.
JAMES M. BRUNDIDGE	Junior Grand Warden.

REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER GRAND LODGES.

Wilson Williams	Arkansas.
David Clopton	Florida, Louisiana.
Joseph H. Johnson, M. D	Georgia.
John Gideon Harris	Idaho.
Daniel Sayre	Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Missouri, Nova Scotia, Oregon.
Peleg Brown	Indiana.
Palmer J. Pillans	Nebraska, New Mexico, Wisconsin.
Oliver S. Beers	New Jersey.
Henry C. Tompkins	New York.
Isaiah A. Wilson	Pennsylvania.
Daniel Smith	Vermont.

And the Masters, Wardens, and *Proxies*, from Subordinate Lodges, as follows:

No.	6.	Moulton	Noble G. Delashaw	W. M.
			DeWitt C. White*	S. W.
"	7.	Macon	Jesse P. Chapman	W. M.
"	8.	Farrar	Sam Thompson	"
"	10.	Royal White Hart	John A. Foster	"
			Alto Velo Lee*	S. W.
"	11.	Montgomery	William H. Dingley	W. M.
			Emil Kulman	S. W.
			Joseph V. Gonzalez	J. W.
"	16.	Athens	Benjamin L. Allen	W. M.
"	22.	Saint Albans	David D. Yeager*	"
"	24.	George Washington	Oscar H. McMillian	"
"	25.	Dale	James T. Beck	"
			Lucky W. Jenkins*	S. W.
			Francis P. M. Gilbert*	J. W.
"	27.	Selma Fraternal	William W. McCollum	W. M.
			Henry F. Mullen*	S. W.
"	28.	Marengo	Foster B. Terrell	W. M.
"	29.	Rising Sun	James M. Brundidge*	"
"	31.	Autauga	Martin F. Stoudenmier	"
"	36.	Washington	Thomas T. Rowland	"
"	37.	Courtland	Andrew O. P. Pickens	S. W.
"	39.	Wetumpka	Isaac W. Suttle*	W. M.
"	40.	Mobile	William S. Foster	"
"	41.	Livingston	John Gideon Harris	"
"	42.	Hiram	William M. Hames	"
"	43.	Leighton	Joseph M. Kumpe	"
"	44.	Gaston	Hannibal H. McNeil	S. W.

*Proxies.

No.	49.	Demopolis	John H. McKinley	W. M.
"	50.	Union	John W. Bush	"
"	53.	Greening	George R. Farnham	"
"	54.	Amity	James B. Head	J. W.
"	55.	Mount Moriah	Reuben B. Bonnell	S. W.
"	56.	Troy	Josiah Jernigan,	W. M.
"	57.	Tuskegee	James A. Bilbro	"
			Jesse L. Adams	S. W.
			James E. Cobb*	J. W.
"	59.	Benton	John C. Grumbles	W. M.
"	61.	Tompkinsville	William R. Horn	"
'	62.	Union Springs	Isaiah A. Wilson	"
			James G. Cowan	S. W.
"	63.	Social	Edward T. Eubanks	"
'	64.	Eureka	Albert W. Metcalf	W. M.
'	65.	Liberty	Joseph A. Groves	"
			William T. Bell*	S. W.
"	67.	Hampden Sidney	Edwin H. Robinson	W. M.
			Jacob D. Whetstone	S. W.
"	68.	Holsey	William P. Blackman*	W. M.
"	69.	Howard	Oliver S. Beers	"
			Daniel Smith*	S. W.
			Peleg Brown*	J. W.
"	70.	Central	Thomas B. McClesky	W. M.
			Henry Wilson*	S. W.
"	72.	Widow's Son	George A. Barge	W. M.
"	74.	Solomon	William A. Bledsoe	S. W.
"	76.	Auburn	George P. Harrison Jr	W. M.
"	78.	Crozier	Allen N. Ward	J. W.
"	80.	Wilcox	Jonathan N. Stanford*	W. M.
			Augustus W. Crum	S. W.
"	81.	St. Stephens	Thomas H. Bailey	"
"	84.	Erophotic	Alfred H. Lee	"
			Edgar A. McFerrin*	J. W.
"	88.	Meridian Sun	Kenneth M'Kinnon	W. M.
"	89.	Prattville	Llewelyn Spigener*	"
"	93.	Sawyer	John Reaves	"
"	95.	Danville	Jesse T. Wallace	J. W.
"	96.	Tuckabatchee	David D. Kent	W. M.
			William A. Fuller	S. W.
			Stephen S. Brinson	J. W.
"	97.	Lozahatchee	James H. Savage*	W. M.
"	98.	Fulton	Joseph L. Edwards*	"
"	99.	Salem	William M. Adams	"
"	101.	Hartwell	John F. Graham	J. W.
"	103.	Benson	Jasper T. Smitherman	S. W.
"	104.	Good Samaritan	Leroy L. Te Bow	W. M.
"	107.	Choctaw	Joseph H. Knighton*	"
"	108.	Oak Bowery	Richard P. Lockhart	"
			John T. Hester*	S. W.

*Proxies.

No.	119.	Notasulga	Benjamin F. Johnson	W. M.
			Ralph T. Armstrong	S. W.
			Adam S. Armstrong*	J. W.
"	120.	Camp Hill	Walter R. Dawson	W. M.
"	124.	Felix	Haywood Pipkin*	"
"	125.	Herndon	Edward H. Lamb	"
"	129.	Geneva	William D. Campbell	"
			Wiley W. Bloodworth	"
"	133.	Loachapoka	David C. Armstrong	S. W.
			Lewis T. Wimberly*	J. W.
"	134.	Wiley	Abijah Haley	W. M.
			George E. Crawford	"
"	136.	Unity	Kossuth A. Mayer	S. W.
			Charles L. Davis*	J. W.
			Amos M. Elliott	W. M.
"	140.	Shelby	Benjamin F. Wilson*	S. W.
"	144.	Daleville	Alexander Gillis McLeod	W. M.
"	148.	Cold Water	Michael Y. Hayes	"
"	151.	Bladon Springs	James Connor Jun'r*	S. W.
"	152.	Mount Jefferson	Edward S. Collier	W. M.
"	155.	Eastaboga	Andrew Cunningham*	"
"	157.	Somerville	Henry M. Mason	"
"	161.	Penick	William C. Cousins	"
			Oliver P. Looney	S. W.
"	163.	Fayetteville Authentic	William R. Phillips	J. W.
"	166.	Sumter	Charles F. Threadgill	W. M.
"	168.	Mount Hope	Benjamin F. McGaughy	"
"	169.	Buena Vista	George W. Delbridge*	"
"	170.	Elba	John B. Simmons*	"
"	171.	Clopton	John H. Weed	"
			John Gindrat Winter	"
"	173.	Andrew Jackson	Julius Tandy Glaze	S. W
			Henry Clark Davidson	J. W.
"	176.	Davie	Charles Crawley	W. M.
"	180.	Mount Hilliard	Benjamin J. Dismukes	J. W.
"	181.	Aberfoil	William Prichett*	W. M.
"	186.	Catawla	LeRoy F. Box*	"
"	188.	Clintonville	Alfred McGee	"
"	190.	Tombigbee	John W. Jones	"
			H. Felix Turnipseed*	S. W.
"	193.	Hopewell	Andrew J. Armstrong	J. W.
"	198.	Caledonia	Clarence L. McCartha	W. M.
"	199.	Kialighee	Nathan Landers	"
"	201.	Helicon	William H. Posey	"
"	203.	Valley	Oswell Albright	"
"	204.	Manning Spring	Andrew J. Simmons	"
			Robert J. Redden	"
"	206.	Moscow	John H. Bankhead*	S. W.
"	207.	Pettusville	William R. Hanserd Jr*	W. M.
"	208.	Alexandria	William P. Cooper	"

*Proxies.

No. 211.	York	Franklin A. Gamble	W. M.
" 212.	Putnam	Joseph H. Mooty	"
" 213.	Euclid	William H. Pruitt	"
" 217.	Spring Hill	William W. Harder	"
" 218.	Sam Dixon	Reuben T. Ewing	"
" 219.	Lineville	Alexander Beck	"
" 222.	Western Star	John T. Goodson	"
" 224.	Newton	Richard A. Ramsey	"
" 225.	Louisville	John W. Efurd*	"
" 226.	Santa Fe	Lamartine O. Hicks*	"
" 227.	James Penn	William H. Stuckey	"
" 228.	Dallas	William A. Striplin	S. W.
" 233.	Sepulga	Daniel D. Bennett	W. M.
" 237.	Tallassee	Robert T. Ashurst	"
		Solomon T. Strickland*	S. W.
" 238.	Fairmount	Zebulon Terry	W. M.
" 242.	Coosa	Isaac C. Hall	"
" 243.	Ramer	Pleasant W. Spear	"
		Anthony H. Sellers*	S. W.
" 244.	Dawson	Joseph S. Sanders	W. M.
" 245.	John Payne	Moses A. Taggart	J. W.
" 246.	Harrison	John A. Law	W. M.
" 248.	Lawrence	Newell M. Thornton*	"
		Nathaniel L. Hawley	S. W.
" 249.	Toluca	Charles G. Jones	J. W.
" 250.	Amand	Moses D. Pinson	W. M.
		William N. Jones*	S. W.
" 251.	Camp Creek	Julius M. Baxter	"
" 256.	Gaylesville	Leonidas D. Griffitts*	W. M.
" 260.	Bellville	William Y. Titcomb*	"
" 261.	Talladega	Myles J. Greene	"
		James H. Joiner*	S. W.
		Alonzo G. Storey*	J W.
" 262.	Highland	Needham Lee*	W. M.
" 265.	Meridian	George C. Sanders*	S. W.
" 266.	Mount Pleasant	James D. Driesbach*	W. M.
" 267.	Wind Creek	John Y. Johnston	"
		William H. Murphey*	J. W.
" 270.	Butler Spring	Comer J. Knight	W. M.
" 272.	Clifton	James L. Fisher	J. W.
" 274.	Paint Rock	David R. Woodall	W. M.
" 275.	Frankfort	Amos L. Moody*	"
" 280.	Springville	Andrew J. Nunnelly	"
" 283.	Daviston	John D. Motley	S. W.
" 285.	Georgiana	Pinkney M. Bruner	W. M.
" 286.	Walker	Thomas J. Calahan*	"
" 287.	Clinton	James M. Williams	S. W.
" 290.	Gillespie	William H. Brasher	W. M.
" 291.	Fort Deposit	Thomas Blake	"
" 301.	Norris	William J. O'Bannon	"

*Proxies.

No.	305.	Central City	Julius C. Adler	W. M.
			William T. Atkins*	S. W.
			Isaac A. McMillan*	J. W.
"	315.	Jonesboro	James L. Nail	S. W.
"	331.	Charity	Pleasant M. Fancher*	W. M.
"	332.	Blue Eye	Thomas J. Brewer	"
"	334.	Oliver	Horatio C. Grayson*	"
"	335.	Nanafalia	Albert G. Westbrook	"
"	337.	Johnson	Benjamin R. Bricken	"
"	339.	Albert Pike	William H. Avery*	"
"	341.	Ragan	David A. Wright	"
"	346.	Hurtville	Jacob Kurniker	"
"	348.	Bienville	Palmer J Pillans	"
"	349.	Ozark	Avent W Cotton	"
			Jesse M. Carmichael	S. W.
			Hugh L. Deshazo	J. W.
"	351.	Wilson Williams	James T. Holland	W. M.
"	353.	Rock Mills	George W. Taylor	"
"	355.	Van Buren	Solon E. Heard	"
"	357.	Rutledge	John A. Padgett	"
"	360.	Newtonville	Zach Savage	"
"	361.	Town Creek	Alexander P. Odom	"
"	363.	Chester	William T. Jones*	"
"	364.	Pleasant Site	Berry E. Finch	S. W.
"	366.	Cotaco	Isaac M. Jackson	W. M.
"	367.	Chandler	William R. Barker	S. W.
"	368.	Cross Plains	John C. Boles	W. M.
			Andrew J. Sitton*	S. W.
			Alexander McCollister*	J. W.
"	371.	Russellville	John W. White	W. M.
"	377.	Lake City	William J. D. Cawthon	"
"	378.	Weogufka	Thomas S. McDonald*	"
			John A. Sears	J. W.
"	381.	E. H. Cook	John H. Malone	W. M.
"	384.	Birmingham Fraternal	William L. Gude*	"
			Francis H. Britton	S. W.
			Goldsmith W. Howitt	J. W.
"	386.	Trinity	James D Faulkner*	S. W.
"	392.	Hickory Flat	Andrew J Thompson*	"
"	394.	Valley Head	James M. Price	W. M.
"	395.	Opelika	Isaac Heyman	"
"	397.	Black Oak	Newton J. Thacker*	"
"	402.	Green Hill	Henry A. Killen	"
"	403.	Childersburg	Dempsey B. Oden	"
"	405.	Mineral Spring	Patrick W. Cole*	"
			William M. Chambles	S. W.
"	406.	Doric	Lovett H. Godwin	"
"	407.	North River	Samuel T Brown	W. M.
"	408.	Hillsboro	Benjamin M. Simpson	"
"	409.	Pond Town	Joachim L. White	"

*Proxies.

No. 410.	Helena	Rufus W. Cobb*	W. M.
		Albert Webb*	S. W.
" 411.	Jemison	Hiram M. Hayes	W. M.
" 412.	Amberson	Thomas H. Amberson	"
		Thomas N. White	S. W.
" 414.	Sulphur Spring	Joseph H. Gardner	W. M.
" 416.	Williamsburg	John E. Williams*	"
" 420.	Broom town	Madison R. Cunningham	J. W.
" 421.	Cullman Fraternal	Thaddeus W. McMinn	W. M.
" 422.	Shorterville	Leroy R. Sims*	"
" 423.	Clanton	James A. Dudley*	"
		Hugh J. Callen	J. W.
" 426.	Daniel Pratt	Ellis Veitch*	S. W.

*Proxies.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form.

Prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, Brother William C. Bledsoe.

The M. W. Grand Master, Brother Henry Clay Armstrong, delivered his Annual Address, and on motion of Brother Palmer J. Pillans, it was referred to a special committee, consisting of Brothers—

Palmer J. Pillans, of Bienville No. 348.
John A. Padgett, of Rutledge No. 357.
DeWitt C. White, of Moulton No. 6.

GRAND MASTER'S ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Brethren of the Grand Lodge:

We meet once again in fraternal council under auspicious and congratulatory conditions. Throughout our jurisdiction there is an enthusiasm in the support of our Order that awakens the most pleasurable emotions, and inspires the strongest hope for our future. Words of comfort and cheer come to us from every quarter of our territory, assuring us that the principles we are endeavoring to represent are practiced and observed generally by the Fraternity. This devotion to masonry, I am glad to believe, is not a mere momentary zeal, or superficial enthusiasm; but the result of a conviction, that grows stronger every day, that the institution is truly a powerful aid to man in subdueing his passions, and improving himself in those virtues which adorn and solidify character. It is in this conviction that we find that which constitutes the strength of masonry, and from which we expect its perpetuity.

But while we have so much cause for rejoicing, we have, I regret, also cause for unfeigned emotions of sorrow. Since our last communication, one who was so often with us in our deliberations, who aided us by his marked wisdom in adhering to the spirit of our jurisprudence, who encouraged us by his genial disposition in the discharge of our duties, and who exhibited a spirit of modest but manly conservatism in his conduct, has departed this life, and is to-day, we hope, forever at refreshment

above. Yes, our dear Brother Henry A. Woolf, is no more. For a number of years he occupied an official relation to this Grand Lodge and our State Government, in both of which, as well as in all other duties of life, he exemplified the character of the good and true man. We mourn his loss, but not without the comforting hope that his future, like his life, is one of peace. I suggest that an appropriate expression of our feelings upon Brother Woolf's death be made.

Dispensations have been granted to the following named Lodges to elect officers, said Lodges having, for good cause shown, failed to elect their officers at the time prescribed by the constitution:

Fredonia Lodge No. 79.

Solomon Lodge No. 74.

Bladen Springs Lodge No. 151.

Dispensations were also granted to Black Oak Lodge No. 397, Spring Hill Lodge No. 217, to continue their masonic labors until this communication. These Lodges had forfeited their charters on account of non-representation and non-payment of dues, and I trust it will be your pleasure to restore them as all dues to date have been paid.

I also granted Dispensations for the removal of the following Lodges, being satisfied that the interests of masonry would thereby be promoted, viz: To Gillespie Lodge No. 290, from the present location in Fayette to Cleveland in same county.

The following decisions made by me during the past year comprise all that I deem necessary to bring to your attention:

Ruled—

1. That no dues accrue to a subordinate Lodge against a member thereof pending the forfeiture of its charter. A brother whose membership was in such a Lodge, may, upon payment to the Grand Secretary of the amount of all dues which have accrued against him to the Grand Lodge, obtain from that officer a certificate showing such payment; and upon this certificate he may petition any Lodge for membership.

2. That after charges and specifications are regularly filed, they become the property of the Lodge; and may, by consent of the Lodge, at any regular communication, be withdrawn.

3. That when an appeal is taken to the Grand Lodge by a brother who has been suspended or expelled by a subordinate Lodge, and the decision of such Lodge reversed by the Grand Lodge, the status of such a brother is that of an unaffiliated Mason. This decision I have made in obedience to Rule 19, Article 7, of our constitution. This I think is a singular provision of our organic law, and one that should be revised and amended. In my opinion, it divests the Grand Lodge of the power and authority that rightfully belongs to it in such cases, and works a hardship where no hardship should be suffered. For instance: A brother is tried, and is suspended or expelled by a subordinate Lodge. From this sentence he appeals. The Grand Lodge decides, after carefully considering all the testimony, that the charges are not sustained, and reverses the decision of the Lodge below; yet the appellant has, under the rule above cited, to suffer the loss of Lodge membership, thereby undergoing a punishment when no offense had been committed. Why not make the reversal full and complete, and restore the brother to the position he occupied before the wrongful finding of the Lodge below?

4. When a party has received the E. A. Degree, and makes application to be Passed, if there is any moral reason why he should not advance, the member in possession of such reason should report the same to the prosecuting officer of the Lodge, and have charges preferred against him. To this the applicant is entitled on every principle of justice and equity. After his initiation he, to that extent, is adopted into the masonic family, and is invested with certain rights and privileges, and among them the right to be heard in his defense. If unworthy to be advanced, he is unworthy to retain what he has, and should be tried and expelled.

I beg in this connection to call the attention of the Subordinate Lodges to the importance of the committees appointed to investigate the character of applicants for the mysteries of masonry. I very much fear that in some Lodges such committees regard their appointment as a mere matter of form, and I have sometimes known reports agreed upon, by committees on character, at the same communication at which they were appointed, thereby failing to make that thorough inquiry and investiga-

tion into the character of the applicant that is contemplated by the provision of the constitution requiring their appointment. *This should not be so.* There is no committee so important to masonry, as the committee appointed to investigate the characters of applicants. They are for the time being the custodians of the honor and integrity of masonry; overseers appointed and sent out to inspect and receive only such material as will adorn our moral and masonic edifice. Brethren, let us guard well the portals of our Lodges. Our troubles and difficulties all grow out of our failure to do this.

I have during the past year visited the following Lodges :

Union No. 50, at Uniontown.
Central City No. 305, at Selma.
Andrew Jackson No. 173, at Montgomery.
Troy No. 54, at Troy.
Brundidge No. 184, at Brundidge.
Harrison No. 246, at Henderson.
Bullock No. 276, at Bullock.
Elba No. 170, at Elba.
Clintonville No. 188, at Clintonville.
Haw Ridge No. 399, at Haw Ridge.
Ozark No. 349, at Ozark.
Henry No. 191, at Abbeville.
James Penn No. 227, at Clopton.
Royal White Hart No. 10, at Clayton.
Harmony No. 46, at Eufaula.
Loachapoka No. 133, at Loachapoka.
Oak Bowery No. 108, at Oak Bowery.
Wetumpka No. 39, at Wetumpka.
Birmingham Fraternal No. 384, at Birmingham.
Rising Virtue No. 4, at Tuscaloosa.
North Port No. 252, at North Port.
Newtonville No. 360, at Newtonville.
Charles Baskerville No. 281, at Fayette Court House.
Vernon No. 389, at Vernon.

Moscow No. 206, at Moscow.

Notasulga No. 119, at Notasulga.

Penick No. 161, at Eclectic.

The brethren of the last named Lodge have built a new, neat, substantial, and comfortable Lodge room, the corner stone of which I laid on the 5th of September in the presence of a large crowd who had assembled to witness the ceremony.

It will be observed that in my visitation to the Subordinate Lodges I have in most instances visited those Lodges remote from the public thoroughfares. While the number of Lodges visited during the year is not so large as might hava been, had I given my attention entirely to those easy of access, yet I have reason to hope that my efforts to promote the cause of masonry will not be without some degree of success, as they have been directed mainly to those sections of our jurisdiction where no Grand Master had officially gone before. I desire here to return to the brethren with whom I met during my official visitations, my thanks for their uniform courtesy with the assurance that their kindness was duly appreciated and will ever be gratefully remembered.

As we thus pass in review the doings of the past year we see that while we have worked, Providence has smiled upon us, granted us comparative immunity from the ravages of disease and death, and otherwise favored our conditions in life. Let us be thankful for His mercies and stimulated to a more reverential regard for His Holy will respecting us.

I now return to you the trust with which you were pleased to invest me, and which, I feel, has been too feebly executed. In taking leave of you, officially, let me say that my heart's desire and prayer is that you may always be favored with that peace and harmony which emanate from a rigid observance and gentle practice of the refining, elevating and purifying, principles of masonry.

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG,

Grand Master.

The Grand Treasurer made his Annual Report, and it was referred to the Committee on Finance. *(See Appendix.)*

The Grand Secretary made his Annual Report, and it was referred to the Committee on Finance. *(See Appendix.)*

HANDING OVER PAPERS.

On motion of Brother Grand Secretary, all papers were ordered to be handed over to the proper committees without being brought to the attention of the Grand Lodge.

RESTORING FORFEITED CHARTERS.

On motion of Brother Grand Secretary, all Lodges, the charters of which had been forfeited for non-representation for two years, and which have now paid up their Dues in full, and are represented, were reinstated.

REPORT ON THE E. A. DEGREE.

Brother Myles J. Greene, from the Committee on Work, made report on the E. A. Degree, and the report was received and concurred in.

Brother Henry C. Tompkins, from the Committee on Codification, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in :

REPORT ON CODIFICATION.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama :

Your committee whose duty it was made by a resolution adopted at the

last communication to compile all the laws and edicts of the Grand Lodge now in force, and report the same at the present Grand Communication, beg leave to submit the result of their labor to the consideration of the Grand Lodge. Your committee respectfully suggest that they be authorized to review and revise the work already done, and to embrace in the code to be prepared by them any edict, rule, or resolution, that may have been omitted, and all rules, resolutions, and edicts, that may be adopted at this communication, and have such code properly indexed and printed.

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted.

DAVID CLOPTON,
H. C. TOMPKINS,
DANIEL SAYRE,
Committee.

And then, after prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow morning at 8½ o'clock.

IN GRAND LODGE.

TUESDAY MORNING, December 2, 1879.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 8½ o'clock, the M. W. Grand Master, Henry Clay Armstrong, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

Prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The minutes were read and approved.

Brother James M. Brundidge offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

FALKVILLE LODGE NO. 396.

Resolved, That Falkville Lodge No. 396, having lost its Hall, its Charter, and all its property by fire, the Grand Secretary is hereby directed to furnish said lodge with a new charter without charge.

REPORT ON THE F. C. DEGREE.

Brother James M. Brundidge, from the Committee on Work, made report on the F. C. Degree, and the report was received and concurred in.

REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER GRAND LODGES.

The following representatives from the following Grand

Lodges, properly commissioned, were presented to the M. W. Grand Master, and cordially welcomed:

John Gideon Harris, from the Grand Lodge of Idaho.
Daniel Smith, from the Grand Lodge of Vermont.
Palmer J. Pillans, from the Grand Lodge of New Mexico.

Brothers Henry C. Tompkins and William Y. Titcomb, each, offered a resolution in regard to violations of Masonic Law, and they were referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

The M. W. Grand Master announced the following as the regular

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Chartered Lodges.

No. 1.

Alexander McCollister,
James T. Holland,
George E. Crawford,
John Y. Johnston,
Goldsmith W. Hewitt.

No. 2.

John A. Padgett,
George W. Taylor,
Charles Crawley,
George C. Saunders,
Henry A. Killen.

No. 3.

DeWitt C. White,
Benjamin R. Bricken,
Amos L. Moody,
Alexander P. Oden,
Francis P. M. Gilbert.

No. 4.

James G. Cowan,
William H. Avery,
Dempsey B. Oden,
James M. Williams,
James D. Falkner.

No. 5.

Julius C. Adler,
John Reeves,
Amos M. Elliot,
John B. Simmons,
Hiram M. Hayes.

No. 6.

Joseph Jernigan, William H. Pruitt,
William W. Harder, Ellis Veitch.
Oswell Albright,

No. 7.

John T. Hester, Lamartine O. Hicks,
Walter R. Dawson, Foster B. Terrell.
William P. Cooper,

No. 8.

Isaac C. Hall, Pleasant W. Spear,
Thomas H. Bailey, Jacob D. Whetstone.
William A. Striplin,

No. 9.

Isaac Heyman, Jesse L. Adams,
Thomas J. Callahan, George A. Barge.
William C. Cousins,

No. 10.

Thomas J. Brewer, Allen N. Ward,
Alfred H. Lee, David D. Kent.
Benjamin L. Allen,

On Dispensations.

No. 1.

William M. Hames, William D. Campbell,
Llewelyn Spigener, William L. Gude.
Joseph L. Edwards,

No. 2.

Horatio C. Grayson, Kossuth A. Mayer,
Lewis T. Wimberly, Michael Y. Hayes.
LeRoy L. TeBow,

On Finance.

Oliver S. Beers, Benjamin F. McGaughy,
Alonzo G. Storey, Pinkney M. Bruner.
Abijah Haley,

On By-Laws.

Jesse M. Carmichael, Henry M. Mason,
William H. Horn, John W. Jones.
Richard P. Lockhart,

ON PROPOSITIONS AND GRIEVANCES.

George P. Harrison Jr., William H. Posey,
Benjamin F. Johnson, Robert J. Redden.
Sam Thompson,

ON DOINGS OF GRAND OFFICERS.

John W. Bush, Reuben T. Ewing,
Ralph T. Armstrong, Solon E. Heard.
William R. Hansard,

ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

William S. Foster, John A. Law,
James H. Savage, Albert W. Metcalf.
Alfred McGee,

Brother Palmer J. Pillans, from the Committee on the Grand Master's Address, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON THE GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

The committee to whom was referred the address of the M. W. Grand Master, beg leave to report—

That they have noted with great pleasure the announcement made by the Grand Master, that prosperity and increased strength are visible throughout the fraternity, and congratulates the Grand Lodge thereon.

They, in common with the members of the Grand Lodge, join most heartily with the M. W. Grand Master in his expressions of sorrow for the death of our esteemed Brother, Henry A. Woolf, and recommend that that portion of the address be referred to a special committee of *three*, that a proper expression of the deep sense of the loss of this Grand Lodge, and of its sincere sympathy with the bereaved, may be set forth.

The committee further recommend that so much of the address as pertains to Dispensations, be referred to the Committee on Dispensations.

That all of the decisions be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

The committee beg leave further to commend the system of Grand Visitations to all future Grand Masters, feeling fully assured that life,

vigor, and energy, are all infused into the lodges thereby, and that they may be of incalculable benefit to the fraternity.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

P. J. PILLANS,
JOHN A. PADGETT,
D. C. WHITE,
Committee.

And the special committee provided for in the foregoing report was appointed as follows:

ON THE DEATH OF BROTHER HENRY A. WOOLF.

John W. Bush, of Union No. 50.
George C. Saunders, of Meridian No. 265.
Isaac M. Jackson, of Cotaco No. 366.

And then, after prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until this evening at 7 o'clock.

IN GRAND LODGE.

TUESDAY EVENING, December 2, 1879.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 7 o'clock, the M. W. Grand Master, Henry Clay Armstrong, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

Prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The minutes were read and approved.

Brother Oliver S. Beers, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in, and the annexed resolution adopted:

SPECIAL REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to present a special report, designed to correct an unintentional omission in their former reports, whereby the well-approved merits and position of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Dakota failed of proper presentation to your consideration. Apologising for this neglect, and in order as speedily as possible to correct the error, we present, hereto annexed, a resolution providing for the official recognition of this legally organized and old established sister Grand Lodge, and recommend its adoption.

We also report specially on the existing necessity for due consideration, as well as proper legislation thereon, of that department of Grand Lodge polity which may be properly designated as our

Foreign Relations.

Your committee and the officers of this Grand Lodge are alive to the increasingly important duties and responsibilities forced upon them in their official intercourse with other and more remote Grand Lodge jurisdictions, more especially in their contact with those of European origin and governmental characteristics—such, for instance, as organizations combined in Grand Lodge Leagues, or created and governed by Grand Orients and Supreme Councils. With such masonic institutions, the R. W. Grand Secretary, the M. W. Grand Master, as well as your committee, have frequent interchange of correspondence, and there are overtures from some of them, soliciting formal official recognition, now pending.

We can, with comparative ease and certainty, decide upon the claims to recognition of the North American (Anglican) Grand Lodges, for they are in language, form of government, and ritual, essentially one with us; but how difficult, indeed, is the duty of deciding upon the merits of such claimants of recognition as approach us from abroad, with almost incomprehensible divergences of ritual and forms of government from our own, and addressing us in languages so unfamiliar to our ears as to be almost entitled to be designated as "unknown tongues." Their systems of government are as diverse from ours as a republican form differs from an autocratic; while in geographical location, masonic ritual, ethics, and habits of thought, they are as far removed from us and our simple ways as the east is from the west.

The term *recognition*, as used and applied masonically in America, involves the idea of approval of the work and principles of the organization recognized, and while such approval may be safely expressed in the recognition of American Grand Lodges, we contend that our knowledge of the foreign organizations alluded to, however "true and perfect" may be their individual constituents, does not warrant us in extending to the latter full recognition with its implied approval and indorsement.

Without further enumeration of the difficulties, numerous as well as grave, which have suggested this recommendation, your committee advise that hereafter formal official recognition be extended only to Grand Lodges of Anglican origin, which conform to our ritual and principles of organization, and that all overtures for recognition from Grand Bodies, governed or associated with Grand Leagues, Grand Orients, or Supreme Councils (subject, of course, to the Grand Lodge edict of 1878 in reference to the Grand Orient of France), be answered by a tender of fraternal civilities and courtesies, and an exchange of protocols; and that this recommendation and report, if adopted, shall have the significance and force of an edict of this Grand Lodge.

Your committee beg further to state, as germane to this report, that they have received during recess, information in reference to the pending jurisdictional controversy between the Grand Lodge of Quebec and that of Scotland, and are pleased to be enabled to say, that this new light warrants them in essentially modifying the unqualified censures expressed in their last report against the Grand Lodge of Scotland. There are faults on both sides in that unfortunate controversy, demanding mutual concessions, and we are quite hopeful of an amicable settlement of the difficulty as soon as calm judgment returns, and masonic charity resumes her sway over the contestants.

Your committee have also, in the light of new developments, somewhat changed their opinion as to the "*true inwardness*" and general masonic import of the unfortunate struggle for supremacy on the Island of Cuba, the contestants being the Grand Lodge of Colon and the newly-organized Grand Lodge of the Island of Cuba. The fact that the latter Grand Lodge is similar in organization to our own, and uses the same ritual, has enlisted our sympathy in her behalf, and we have been almost persuaded to take sides with Cuba, as the champion of our favorite Grand Lodge system.

It is, however, as true now as when we reported on this topic last year, that these brethren can and should reconcile their own internal controversies without outside intervention, and we still prefer a position of neutrality in this and other foreign contests.

In our regular report, we have endeavored to do full justice to the parties involved in the two controversies above alluded to. Referring to which, we beg permission again to file that report with the R. W. Grand Secretary in time for publication with the proceedings of this annual communication.

OLIVER S. BEERS,
Chairman.

Dakota Recognized.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge hereby extends its cordial recognition to the M. W. Grand Lodge of Dakota, of the U. S. Territory of that name, and tenders to her the fraternal welcome due from equals to equals in masonic rank and aims; inviting, also, a free interchange of Grand Lodge courtesies and correspondence.

Brother William Y. Titcomb, from the Committee on Suspensions, Expulsions, and Appeals, made the follow-

ing report, and the report was received and concurred in:

SUSPENSIONS, EXPULSIONS, AND APPEALS.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

The Committee on Suspensions, Expulsions, and Appeals, respectfully submits the following report:

1st. The committee reports that certain papers, from Georgiana Lodge No. 285, relating to the case of David Baer against Emanuel Baer, and now lying in the hands of your committee, are so incomplete that to take them into consideration is out of the question. Furthermore the text of the appeal recites that the same is made to the Grand Lodge of New York; for which reason this committee asks that, upon a return of said papers to Georgiana Lodge, with instructions to amend, if the parties see fit, it be discharged from further disposition of said papers.

2d. Appeal of Brother T. M. Reese, W. M. of Zion Lodge No. 304, for the decision of said Lodge in the case of Zachariah Savage against Ira W. Moore, Thaddeus W. Walker, and William B Harvey, on the charge of "gross and unmasonic conduct," with specifications alleging that the said parties defendent, as a company, did, on the 30th March, 1879, knock down a mill, on Sipsey River, of which said Savage was part owner; also that they violated their duty as Masons by refusing or failing to answer a letter written to them by said Savage, on the subject of the damage suffered by himself. While, on the one hand, the proceedings in this case are incomplete, it is on the other hand, apparent from the trial that the accused were guilty of no moral turpitude, or violation of masonic duty in this matter. They aver—and their declaration encounters no rebuttal—that they exhausted every means in their power to prevent their boat from knocking away the mill, and disclaim any purpose to injure Brother Savage under any circumstances. The Lodge acquited Moore, Walker, and Harvey. Perceiving no reason why said decision should be reversed, we recommend that the action of Zion Lodge No. 304, acquiting Brothers Moore, Walker, and Harvey, be sustained.

3. An appeal from the decision of Pea River Lodge No. 271, which did, on the 15th March, 1879, indefinitely suspend William J. Stephens from all the privileges and benefits of masonry, under the following charges and specifications:

CHARGE:

"Immoral and unmasonic conduct."

SPECIFICATION 1ST.

"In that the said William J. Stephens, of Coffee county, Ala., while acting as agent for one J. C. Allen of South Carolina, did, in the year 1872, sell a tract of land lying in Coffee county, Alabama, as said agent, to Brother Henry Fowler ; and since that time has collected, at different times, amounts due on the notes given by the said Henry Fowler for the said land, and has appropriated the same to his own use without the consent or knowledge of the said J. C. Allen, in violation of his duty as a Mason, and to the scandal and disgrace of the masonic fraternity."

SPECIFICATION 2D.

"And also in that the said William J. Stephens has wronged the aforesaid Allen by not paying the proceeds of the sale of the said land over to the said Allen ; further, that he—Stephens—still continues to hold the said Allen's effects, in violation of his duty as a Mason, and to the scandal and disgrace of the masonic fraternity."

The testimony in this case shows that Brother Henry Fowler gave Stephens two notes for the land in question, one for one hundred dollars, payable to Stephens as agent for J. C. Allen, and another for one hundred and twenty-five dollars, to the same effect ; also that Stephens indorsed on the said notes credits to the amount of $127.52.

The deposition of J. C. Allen, aforesaid, taken before a Notary Public in Sumter county, S. C., shows that W. J. Stephens was the lawful agent of Allen for the sale of the said land ; that Stephens notified Allen of the sale of the land to Fowler ; that Stephens had no authority to appropriate the proceeds of that sale, or any part thereof, to his own use ; that it was the duty of Stephens to remit the proceeds of said sale as soon as collected ; that Allen considered himself wronged in this matter by Stephens, and, lastly, that Stephens *never* remitted any money to Allen.

From the trial under consideration it does not appear that J. C. Allen, the injured man, is a Master Mason ; this circumstance should make no material difference in a judgment on the case ; the commission of any dishonorable, or dishonest act is *unmasonic*, be its object a *Mason* or a *profane*. It is the glory of masonry that her standard of integrity and morality is high, and that she inculcates principles beneficent in their influence upon the outer world.

At said trial Stephens, having "announced ready," made no defence, and the Lodge suspended him indefinitely by a vote of over two-thirds.

We recommend that the decision, of Pea River Lodge No. 271, indefinitely suspending William J. Stephens from all the privileges and benefits of masonry, be sustained.

In conclusion we, the members of the committee on Appeals, tender to this Grand Lodge our respectful, fraternal, and heartfelt congratulations upon the great decrease in the number of Appeals to the Grand Lodge during the last four years; whether or not this is attributable to an increase of contentment with the decisions of Subordinate Lodges, or acquiescence therein, or, else, is due to a diminution of disorders and disturbances in the craft, we cannot intelligently affirm: in either event let us take comfort; for if the former reason is the real one, the justice and correctness of Lodge action is recognized; if the latter, there is evident removal of causes for trouble.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

W. Y. TITCOMB, Chairman.

P. G. M. Wilson Williams offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

FURNITURE AND JEWELS OF CHEWACKLA LODGE NO. 164.

Resolved, That the furniture, jewels, library, &c., heretofore belonging to Chewackla Lodge No. 164, the charter of which has long since been forfeited, be, and the same are hereby, donated and ordered to be turned over to Wilson Williams Lodge No. 351, and that the Worshipful Master proceed to collect up the same for the use of said Lodge.

Brother Isaac C. Hall, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 8, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 8.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 8 respectfully submit that they have examined the returns referred to them, and find the following

CORRECT:

Cluttsville	No.	319	Pikeville	No.	344
Pleasant Hill	"	321	Hurtville	"	346
Holly Grove	"	323	Bienville	"	348
Viola	"	324	Ozark	"	349
Blue Eye	"	332	Wilson Williams	"	351
Oliver	"	334	Rock Mills	"	353
Nanafalia	"	335	Van Buren—2 years	"	355
Johnson	"	337	Rutledge	"	357
Georgiana Davis	"	338	Barbour	"	358
Ragan	"	341	Newtonville—2 years	"	360

INCORRECT :

MADISON STATION No. 329.—Dates A. D. and A. L. not filled out, no post-office given, name of master signed where the name of the lodge ought to be, initials used in two places instead of full name, seal not plumb.

CHARITY No. 331.—The word *none* omitted in all the places where it ought to be in the absence of other matter.

ALBERT PIKE No. 339.—Seven members suspended for non.payment of dues on the 1st July, contrary to the law of the Grand Lodge; fifteen members in the list with no masonic grade given; one name with only initials.

ECHO No. 345.—Suspensions N. P. D. dated May 10.

Fraternally submitted.

ISAAC C. HALL,
THOMAS H. BAILEY,
W. A. STRIPLIN,
JACOB D. WHETSONE.

Brother Julius C. Adler, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 5, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in.

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 5.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 5, beg leave to make the following report. They have carefully examined the returns submitted to them, and report the following as

CORRECT :

Davie—2 years	No.	176	Helicon	No.	201
Desotoville	"	178	Valley	"	203
Mount Hilliard	"	180	Manning Spring	"	204
Aberfoil	"	181	Moscow—2 years	"	206
Catawla	"	186	Pettusville	"	207
Tombigbee	"	190	Alexandria	"	208
Brush Creek	"	191	Marshall	"	209
Hopewell	"	193	York	"	211
Caledonia	"	198	Putnam—2 years	"	212
Sylacauga	"	200	Builders	"	215

INCORRECT.

BRUNDIDGE No. 184.—Heading erroneous in reciting—"commencing on the 15th day of November 1879," instead of 1878; dates A. D. and A. L. not filled up.

CLINTONVILLE No. 188.—Heading erroneeus in reciting—"commencing on the 15th day of November 1879," instead of 1878; initials and abbreviations used in several names, name of the master is signed where the name of the lodge ought to be, seal illegible.

CHATTAHOOCHEE No. 192.—Heading erroneous in reciting—"commencing on the 15th day of November 1879, instead of 1878.

KIALIGHEE* No. 193.—Elmore county, of which Brother Nathan Lauders is Master. In this Return your Committee is unable to make out the name of the lodge, either from the seal, which is too indistinct to be legible; or from the manner in which it is written in the heading, or on the back of the return.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

J. C. ADLER,
Chairman.

Brother James G. Cowan, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 4, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in.

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 4.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 4. beg leave to make the following report. They have carefully examined the returns submitted to them, and find the following

CORRECT:

Unity.....	No. 136	Mount Jefferson.....	No. 152
Shelby.....	" 140	Somerville—2 years.....	" 157
Daleville.....	" 144	Maysville.....	" 158
Cold Water.....	" 148	Penick.....	" 161
Bladon Spring.....	" 151	Fayetteville Authentic.....	" 163

INCORRECT.

BETHEL No. 141.—Seal upsidedown.

BALDWIN No. 142.—Seal upsidedown, and impressed on the wrong side of the returns.

*Grand Secretary has filled out the name.

BURLESON No. 143.—Name of the Master signed where the name of the lodge ought to be, seal illegible; dues omitted for 2 ministers, but only 1 marked M. G.; under the head of degrees conferred the name of an M. M. is reported under all the heads of E. A., F. C., and M. M., whereas it should only be under the latter.

FRATERNITY No. 145.—Abbreviations used; James H. Grigsby is reported dead, and James H. Grigsby is reported as a living member, but there may have been two members of the same name; date A. L. not filled out, returns not signed by the W. M.

MONROEVILLE No. 153.—Initials used, suspensions N. P. D. dated in July—should be dated and take place at the last meeting in June before the 24th, table of dues and fees not filled out.

NIXBURGH No. 154.—Name of 1 M. M. under all the heads of E. A., F. C., and M. M., when it should be only under the last, also 1 F. C. under both heads of E. A. and F. C. when it should be only under the last; the heading recites—commencing on the 15th of November 1879—when it should be 1878; returns 19 members, 3 of which are marked M. D. and no dues paid for them; if they are not M. G's, there is due the Grand Lodge $1.50, name of the lodge spelt without the final H., secretary is referred to his seal.

EASTABOGA No. 155.—Secretary reports the name of 4 members who had been suspended N. P. D., and lets them stand so, although under the head of *Remarks* he says they have paid up and been reinstated, but does not put their names in the list of members—due the G. L. $2.

SUMTER No. 166.—Sumter is spelt without the P, but the secretary puts it in, he is referred to his seal; the verification is dated December 22, which is also an error.

MOUNT HOPE No. 168.—Seal illegible.

BUENA VISTA No. 169.—In this return the name of John Walker is put down under the head of E. A., though the date of his *Passing* is given just above, dues put down in the wrong place.

ELBA No. 170.—Seal illegible.

CLOPTON No. 171.—No seal, and returns not signed by the Master.

FELLOWSHIP No. 172.—Seal illegible.

ANDREW JACKSON No. 173.—The name of a brother given as *Tiler* who is a member of Montgomery Lodge No. 11. *Quere.*—Can a member of one lodge hold office in another?*

Fraternally submitted,

JAMES G. COWAN,
Chairman.

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*NOTE BY THE GRAND SECRETARY.—"The Tiler need not be a member

Brother DeWitt C. White, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 3, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 3.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 3, have carefully examined the returns submitted to them, and beg leave to report the following

CORRECT:

Tuckabatchee	No.	96	Felix	No.	124
Lozahatchee	"	97	Herndon	"	125
Hermon	"	106	Mortimer Reeder	"	126
Oak Bowery	"	108	Loachapoka	"	133
Forest Hill	"	110	Wiley—2 years	"	134
Camp Hill	"	120	Columbia	"	135
Havana	"	123			

INCORRECT:

FULTON No. 98.—Not numbered on the back; dues not paid for two ministers, but their names are not marked on the list of members.

SALEM No. 99.—*Recapitulation* not filled out.

HARTWELL No. 101.—Abbreviations used, wrong date to suspensions N. P. D., seal illegible.

BENSON No. 103.—Two years, initials used, badly defaced with blots and erazures, seal on one return scarcely legible, and on the other not at all.

GOOD SAMARITAN No. 104.—Recapitulation not filled out, under head of members paid for 26 is written, should be 24, seal scarcely legible.

SHILO No. 105.—Number of members and amount of dues not set down in the table of Dues, seal put on with lamp-black by which the return is much defaced.

CHOCTAW No. 107.—Number of members not set down in the table of Dues, master signs his name where the name of the lodge ought to be.

NOTASULGA No. 119.—Year for which Dues are paid not indorsed on

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of the lodge which he tiles; and in fact, in large cities, one brother very often performs the duties of Tiler for several lodges."

Macky's Jurisprudence p. 393.

So says Simons, also.

the outside, name of the last M. M. Raised not on the list of members, therefore due the Grand Lodge 50 cents.

BOLIVAR No. 127.—Years for which dues should be paid not indorsed on the outside, name of the last M. M. Raised not on the list of members, therefore due the Grand Lodge 50 cents more, no seal.

GENEVA No. 129.—Neither name nor number of the lodge indorsed on the back of return, nor the years for which dues were paid, nor the number of ministers unpaid for in table of Dues.

YORKVILLE No. 131.—Under the head of Dues number of members paid for not put down, nor number of M. Gs., amount of dues set down in the column for Grade, which is not required.

Fraternally submitted,

D. C. WHITE,
Chairman.

Brother Isaac Heyman, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 9, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 9.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 9, fraternally submit that they have examined the returns placed in their hands, and find the following

CORRECT:

Town Creek—2 years	No.	361	Gainesville	No.	375
Chester—2 years	"	363	Weogufka	"	378
Pleasant Site	"	364	E. H. Cook	"	381
Chandler	"	367	Birmingham Fraternal	"	384
Cross Plains	"	368	Blue Spring	"	387
Athelstan	"	369	Newburgh	"	388
Russellville	"	371			

INCORRECT.

COTACO No. 366.—Recapitulation not filled out, number of members for whom dues are paid not set down in the table of Dues, one reinstated not set down in the list of members, one reported dimitted and one *Entered* and one reinstated on 22d November, which is after the end of the masonic year.

BELLS LANDING No. 373.—No attention paid to instructions and therefore full of errors.

SAUTA CREEK No. 376.—Neither name, nor number, nor year, nor amount of dues set down on the back, 2 ministers not designated in the list of members, year A. D. set down as 189.

LAKE CITY No. 377.—For 1878, six M. M. the last raised, and 1 affiliate, not put down on the list of members, therefore due the G. L. $3.50.—For 1879, the last raised M. M. and 4 affiliates not on the list of members, due the G. L. $2.50.

TRINITY No. 336.—Had dimitted the J. W. contrary to Masonic Law, amount of dues from each member interlined opposite each name which the blank dues not provide for.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

ISAAC HEYMAN,
Chairman.

Brother Thomas J. Brewer, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 10, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in.

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 10.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 10, beg leave to report that they have carefully examined the Returns placed in their hands, and find the following

CORRECT:

North Border	No.	391	Mineral Springs, 2 years,	No.	405
Opelika	"	395	Doric	"	406
Falkville	"	396	Hillsboro	"	408
Hartselle	"	398	Pond Town	"	409
Haw Ridge	"	399	Amberson	"	412
Hanceville	"	400	Sulphur Springs	"	414
Green Hill	"	402	Broomtown	"	420
Childersburg	"	403	Shorterville	"	422
Hoboken	"	404	Clanton	"	423

INCORRECT:

HICKORY FLAT No. 392.—Initials and abbreviations used, number of the lodge placed under head of dues.

VALLEY HEAD No. 394.—Abbreviations used, amount of dues not inserted under head of Dues, date A. L. not filled out.

BLACK OAK No. 397.—No seal.

NORTH RIVER No. 407.—Date A. L. not filled out, seal not plumb.

HELENA No. 410.—Name of the Master written where the name of the lodge ought to be.

JEMISON No. 411.—Number of members not inserted under head of Dues, date A. D. and A. L. not filled out, seal not plumb.

OAK LEVEL No. 415.—Neither name nor number indorsed on the back, nor the years for which dues should be paid, nor the amount of dues, recapitulation not filled out, one set down as an E. A. although he has been raised.

WILLIAMSBURG No. 416.—The year A. D. and A. L. not filled out, impossible to read the name of the P. O., no seal.

GEORGE SMITH No. 417.—Caption reads—commencing on the 15th November 1879 and ending on the 14th of November 1879 when the commencing should be 1878, no date to one affiliation, 2 ministers not paid for, but their names are not designated, dues inscribed on the back unintelligible.

CULLMAN FRATERNAL No. 421.—Only the latter part of the name inscribed on the back and in the caption, number of members not set down in the table of Dues, 1 F. C. reported as being Passed on December 17; 1879.

GEORGE WILSON No. 424.—J. Gid Harris marked as the representative of this lodge, who does not belong to it; caption of the returns not filled out with either name, number, commencing, or ending; initials and abbreviations used, year A. L. not filled out, 1 set down as an E. A. and another as a F. C. although both have been Raised.

TEMPLE No. 425.—Neither name nor number indorsed on the back, Recapitulation not filled out, 1 reported as a minister but his name is not designated, amount of dues filled out at $8½ although the lodge was U. D.

DANIEL PRATT No. 426.—Two E. A. reported as being affiliated, and 1 E. A. and 1 F. C. set down in the list of members, initials and abbreviations used, 1 reported in the list of members and the same name reported as being dimitted, 1 rejected and no date given, 1 dimitted and no date given, seal not plumb, 1 reported Raised whose name is not on the list of members, but the correct amount of dues are paid.

Fraternally submitted.

THOMAS J. BREWER,
BEN LEE ALLEN,
ALLEN N. WARD,
DAVID D. KENT,
Committee.

Brother Grand Secretary offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

FLORENCE LODGE NO. 14.

Resolved, That Florence Lodge No. 14, be absolved from the payment of Grand Lodge Dues for the year 1878, on account of the prevalence of the yellow fever in Florence during that year.

REPORT ON THE M. M. DEGREE.

Brother James M. Brundidge, from the Committee on Work, made report on the M. M. Degree, and the report was received and concurred in.

Brother John T. Hester, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 7, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 7.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 7, beg leave to report that they have carefully examined the Returns submitted to them, and find the following

CORRECT:

Randolph	No.	258	Frankfort	No.	275
Bellville	"	260	Springville, 2 years	"	280
Meridian	"	265	Georgiana	"	285
Mount Pleasant	"	266	Fort Deposit, 1878	"	291
Wind Creek	"	267	Norris	"	301
Clifton	"	272	Zion	"	304
Paint Rock	"	274	Central City	"	305

INCORRECT:

GAYLESVILLE No. 256.—One affiliate not entered in the list of members, therefore due the Grand Lodge 50 cents.

ERVIN No. 257.—Amount of dues not put down on the back, suspensions N. P. D. dated in October, seal upside down.

TALLADEGA No. 261.—Date A. D. and A. L. not filled out; suspensions N. P. D. dated on the 6th of June, the 1st Friday in the month, when they should be dated on the 20th of June, the 3rd Friday in the month, the day of the regular communication, and the last before the 24th.

HIGHLAND No. 262.—Suspensions N. P. D. dated on November 1.

BUTLER SPRINGS No. 270.—Caption recites—commencing on the 15th November 1879—ought to be 1878.

NORTHERN No. 278.—Caption of Returns not filled out, seal not plumb.

CHARLES BASKERVILLE No. 281.—Recapitulation not filled out, number of members not put down in the table of dues, date of suspensions N. P. D. in the wrong place, no post-office.

DAVISTON No. 283.—Seal illegible.

WALKER No. 286.—Year A. D. and A. L. not filled out.

CLINTON No. 287.—Seal illegible.

GILLESPIE No. 290.—Number of members for which dues are paid not set down in the table of Dues, verification dated 14th of November 1878 instead of 1879.

FORT DEPOSIT No. 291.—For 1879 name of lodge not indorsed on the back.

JONESBORO No. 315.—Caption recites—commencing on the 15th of November 1879 and ending on the 14th day of November 18—, number of members for which dues are paid not set down in the table of Dues, number of ministers not paid for not set down.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. T. HESTER,
Chairman.

Brother Alexander P. Odom offered the following resolution for the relief of Somerville Lodge No. 157, and on motion of Brother Grand Senior Warden, it was amended so as to include Shelby Lodge No. 140, and then the resolution was adopted:

SOMERVILLE NO. 157 AND SHELBY NO. 140.

Resolved, That owing to the impoverished condition of Somerville Lodge No. 157, in consequence of the contributions of its members in building a new Hall, the Dues of said Lodge for 1879, and also the Dues of Shelby Lodge No. 140, be, and the same are hereby, refunded.

Brother Alexander P. Odom offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

BALLOTING ON ADVANCEMENT.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Grand Lodge that a ballot can not be had for the advancement of any candidate on any other day than that of a regular communication, and that no Lodge can call off until another day, and consider it as a part of the regular communication.

And then, after prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock.

IN GRAND LODGE.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, December 3, 1879.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 11 o'clock, the M. W. Grand Master, Henry Clay Armstrong, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

Prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing masonic year, Brothers George W. Taylor and James Connor Jr., acting as tellers; and having elected the first four Grand Officers, the further election was dispensed with until this evening at 8 o'clock, at which time it was resumed and resulted as follows:

ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

HENRY C. TOMPKINS	Montgomery	Grand Master.
RUFUS W. COBB	Montgomery	Deputy Grand Master.
JOHN H. BANKHEAD	Moscow	Senior Grand Warden.
JOHN G. HARRIS	Livingston	Junior Grand Warden.
WILLIAM H. DINGLEY	Montgomery	Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE	Montgomery	Grand Secretary.
JAMES DAVIDSON	Montgomery	Grand Tiler.

Brother John A. Padgett, from the Committee on

Chartered Lodges No. 2, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 2.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 2, having carefully examined the returns submitted to them, beg leave to report the following

CORRECT:

New Market	No.	52	Central	No.	70
Amity	"	54	Tohopeka	"	71
Mount Moriah—2 years	"	55	Widow's Sun	"	72
Troy	"	56	Auburn	"	76
Tuskegee	"	57	Crozier	"	78
Tompkinsville	"	61	Saint Stephens	"	81
Social—2 years	"	63	Meridian Sun	"	88
Eureka	"	64	Prattville	"	89
Liberty	"	65	Pfister	"	90
Hampden Sidney	"	67	Henry	"	91
Holsey	"	68	Sawyer	"	93
Howard	"	69	Danville	"	95

INCORRECT:

GREENING No. 53.—Caption not filled out, has a colored seal, but neither name nor number of the lodge is legible on it.

BENTON No. 59.—Blanks not filled up with the word *none* where it ought to be.

SAINT JOHNS No. 62.—Recapitulation not filled out, seal illegible both as to name and number.

SOLOMON No. 74.—Seal very small and imperfectly attached to the returns. The lodge ought to procure a larger seal, and one that will make an impression on the return itself.

FREDONIA No. 79.—Table of Dues and Fees not filled out, and the Dues are put in the column of "Grade," which is not required by the blank.

WILCOX No. 80.—Blanks not filled out with the word *none* where it ought to be, date A. L. filled out with 5880.

FRIENDSHIP No. 84.—Returns not signed by the W. M.

EROPHOTIC No. 84.—The secretary has put the dues in the column for

officers and members which is not required by the blank, Master's name signed in the wrong place.

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted.

JNO. A. PADGETT,
GEO. W. TAYLOR,
CHARLES CRAWLEY,
GEORGE C. SAUNDERS,
HENRY A. KILLEN.

Brother Josiah Jernigan, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 6, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in :

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 6.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama :

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 6, beg leave to report that they have carefully examined the returns submitted to them, and find the following

CORRECT :

Spring Hill	No.	217	Bowen	No.	241
Western Star	"	222	Coosa	"	242
Newton	"	224	Ramer	"	243
Louisville	"	225	Lawrence	"	248
Santa Fe	"	226	Toluca	"	249
Sepulga	"	233	Camp Creek	"	251
Harpersville	"	235	North Port	"	252
Fairmount—2 years	"	238			

INCORRECT :

SAM DIXON No. 218.—Name and number not indorsed on the back, and caption of Return not filled out, number of members not inserted in the table of Dues, suspensions N. P. D. on the 24th June, but ought to have been on the 7th of June.

LINEVILLE No. 219.—Heading recites—commencing on the 15th November, 1879—when it ought to be 1878, number of members paid for not inserted in the table of Dues, nor the number of M. Gs., initials and abbreviations used, one reported as dimitted on the 15th of November, 1879, which was after the end of the masonic year, another reported as died on the 24th of November, 1879, name of 1 Affiliate not in the list of members, therefore due the G. L. 50 cents,

JAMES PENN No. 227.—Caption of Return not filled out, name of 1 affiliate not in the list of members, therefore due the G. L. 50 cents.

DALLAS No. 228.—Caption of Return not filled out, fees for Initiation, Passing, and Raising, set down at nothing, in one place fee for Affiliation is set down at $1.00, under the head of Fees it is set down at $3.00, two are reported as Affiliated on the 15th November, which is after the close of the masonic year, fee for Initiation is set down at $10, which is contrary to the constitution.

TALLASSEE No. 237.—Master's name signed where the name of the lodge ought to be.

DAWSON No. 244.—Caption of Return not filled out.

JOHN PAYNE No. 245.—Returns badly soiled as though it had had tobacco juice on it, number of members for which dues are paid not set down, nor the number of ministers exempt from dues, Fees for Initiation, Passing, and Raising set down at nothing. Suspensions for non-payment of dues set down on the 24th June when it should be the 14th.

HARRISON No. 246.—Name of one reinstated not set down in the list of members, therefore due the Grand Lodge 50 cents.

AMAND No. 250.—Number of members for which dues are paid not set down in the table of Dues, nor number of ministers, date A. L. not filled out.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

JOSIAH JERNIGAN,
Chairman.

Brother George P. Harrison Jr., from the Committee on Propositions and Grievances, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT No. 1 ON PROPOSITIONS AND GRIEVANCES.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama.

Your committee on Propositions and Grievances having had under consideration various matters referred to them, beg leave to submit the following partial report:

1. In the matter of the petition of the members of Mount Jefferson Lodge No. 152, praying the removal of their Lodge from its present location to Jones X Roads, we recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

2. In the matter of the petition of J. W. Dumas, Secretary of Emy's

Creek Lodge U. D., Senterfitt, Texas, asking that the dues of C. R. Cox, formerly a member of Halo Lodge No. 5, in this jurisdiction, but who now resides in Texas, be remitted, and Mr. Cox restored to the rights and privileges of masonry. Your committee report favorably, and recommend that the prayer be granted and the Grand Secretary be authorized to furnish petitioner with a copy of the action of this Grand Lodge.

3. In the matter of the petition of Hendrix Lodge No. 162, which has heretofore forfeited its charter by failure to pay dues and be represented in the Grand Lodge, praying a restoration of its charter upon payment of dues for two (2) years, we report favorably, and recommend the relief prayed for.

4. In the matter of Courtland Lodge No. 37, praying to be relieved for not sending report to last Grand Communication, by which its charter was forfeited, on account of the prevalence of yellow fever in their midst, we report favorably, and recommend the relief prayed for.

5. In the matter of the petition of Temple Lodge No. 425, and of Brother John G. Apsey, Master of said Lodge, we recommend that the prayer of petitioners be granted, by accepting the resignation of Brother Apsey as Master of said Lodge, that Brother James H. Graham be appointed Worshipful Master in his stead, and that Brother N. T. Greene be appointed Senior Warden in place of Brother Graham thus made Master, and that the petition in so far as it seeks a continuance of the dispensation under which said Lodge is now working be referred to Committee No. 1 on Dispensations.

6. In the matter of the petition of Good Samaritan Lodge No. 104, made by its Master, Brother TeBow, we recommend—

That the dues of said Good Samaritan Lodge No. 104 for the masonic year 1878, amounting to the sum of fourteen dollars, be remitted.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted, with request that your committee be permitted to report again.

GEORGE P. HARRISON JR.,
Chairman.

Brother John W. Bush, from the Special Committee appointed to report suitable resolutions on the death of Brother Henry Ashby Woolf, made the following report, and the report was received and unanimously concurred in:

REPORT ON THE DEATH OF BROTHER WOOLF.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee, appointed to prepare resolutions on the death of our worthy brother—

HENRY ASHBY WOOLF—

beg leave to report the following:

Whereas, It has pleased the Supreme Architect of the Universe, to call our dearly beloved brother from his labor on earth to refreshment beyond the skies; and our deceased brother, having, by his manly virtues and noble character, fully exemplified the principles of truth, love, and charity, as taught in the solemn rites and ceremonies of our fraternity; and by his regular attendance upon the Annual Communications of this Grand Lodge, and a zealous interest in all of its proceedings, manifested an enthusiastic devotion to masonry, as well as the sincerity of his profession, and his unwavering faith in its teachings; and having passed away from earth, and, as we trust, beyond the blazing stars, which at last is the destiny of all good and true masons; *therefore*, as a testimony of our esteem for him, and to commemorate his virtues, and that this Grand Lodge may pay its last sad tribute of love to the worthy dead; be it

Resolved, That our departed brother adorned the noble and holy principles of our fraternity; and his death produces feelings of profound grief in the hearts of his brethren.

Resolved, That his many virtues shall be cherished and emulated by his brethren, and his faults, if any, shall be covered with the mantle of charity: and his name shall go down to future generations as a light in our Masonic Temple, and his memory shall be perpetuated upon our records, and kept alive in our hearts.

Resolved, That a page in the records of this Grand Lodge be appropriated to his memory, whereon shall be inscribed his name, age, and the day of his death.

J. W. BUSH, Chairman.
ISAAC M. JACKSON,
GEO. C. SAUNDERS.

And then, after prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until this evening at 7 o'clock.

IN GRAND LODGE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, December 3, 1879.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 7 o'clock, the M. W. Grand Master, Henry Clay Armstrong, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

Prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Brother P. G. M. Isaiah A. Wilson, from the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, after careful consideration of the several matters referred to them, beg to submit the following report:

The committee have carefully considered the Rulings of the Grand Master, and heartily approve all of them except Ruling No. 4, wherein the principle is announced that—"when a party has received the E. A. Degree, and makes application to be Passed, if there is any moral reason why he should not advance, the member in possession of such reason should report the same to the prosecuting officer of the Lodge, and have charges preferred against him." To this the applicant is entitled on every principle of justice and equity. After his Initiation, he to that extent is adopted into the Masonic family, and is invested with certain

rights and privileges; and among them the right to be heard in his own defense. If unworthy to be advanced, he is unworthy to retain what he has, and should be tried and expelled.

This decision, in the opinion of your committee, wipes out the secrecy of the ballot, which is one of the most sacred of all the ancient landmarks of Free Masonry. If the secrecy of the ballot be invaded, then Masonry will prove a failure, and our lodges will be filled with material not fit for the builder's use. We, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

"That Ruling No. 4 of Past Grand Master Armstrong's decisions be and the same is hereby overruled."

In the matter of the resolutions submitted by Brother Titcomb and R. W. D. Grand Master Tompkins, the committee report a substitute, and recommend its adoption :

"*Resolved*, That any member of a subordinate lodge, who shall be informed, or may know of his own knowledge, that any master of a lodge has been guilty of unmasonic conduct, he may report the same to the M. W. Grand Master, who shall forthwith inquire into the facts of the case, and if they be true, and upon notice to such lodge of such unmasonic conduct, if such lodge fails or refuses to proceed against such master, then the charter of said lodge shall be arrested by the M. W. Grand Master, who shall report the same to the next Grand Lodge."

All of which is fraternally submitted.

I. A. WILSON,
P. J. PILLANS,
R. W. COBB,
Committee.

Brother George P. Harrison Jr., from the Committee on Propositions and Grievances, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in :

REPORT NO. 2 ON PROPOSITIONS AND GRIEVANCES.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama :

Your Committee on Propositions and Grievances beg leave to submit the following additional report :

1. In the matter of the petition of J. H. Poole, who has heretofore been suspended for intemperance, by Marion Fraternal Lodge No. 34, of which Lodge he was then a member, and who seeks restoration to the rights and privileges of Masonry, upon the plea of reformation, your

committee, believing from the evidence that said party has reformed, report favorably on his petition, and recommend that he be restored as therein prayed.

2. In the matter of the petition of William Linsel, which is the same as that of J. H. Poole, formerly a member of Perry Lodge No. 34, and whose petition is supported by the same testimony, your committee make the same report, and recommend his restoration.

3. In the matter of the petition of Temple Lodge No. 425, praying that the dues of all members of the late Marion Fraternal Lodge No. 34, which has heretofore forfeited its charter, be remitted, and said members thereby permitted to affiliate with said Temple Lodge No. 425, your committee report favorably, and recommend that said dues be remitted, indulging the hope that said suspended Masons, whose financial inability has been vouched for by Temple Lodge, will again enter the Masonic fold, and proceed to labor in our glorious cause with renewed freedom, fervency, and zeal.

4. In the matter of the communication of Brother C. J. L. Cunningham to the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, touching the sale of certain lodge property, to-wit, "the old lodge building erected by Pine Grove Lodge No. 220," which Lodge forfeited its charter some years ago, your committee recommend that the Grand Secretary, by and with the advice and consent of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, be authorized and empowered to sell and convey said property upon such terms and conditions as to them may seem proper.

5. In the matter of the petition of a majority of the brethren of Liberty Lodge No. 65, praying permission to remove from their present locality (Liberty Hill) to Bell's church, a distance of six miles, your committee, after carefully considering the petitions *pro* and *con* (fourteen members petition for removal, and nine against it), and hearing evidence and argument upon both sides, feel constrained to say that they believe the good of our noble Order will be promoted by granting the prayer of the majority petition, and therefore recommend that the permission to remove be granted as prayed. In doing so, your committee are pained to think that some good and zealous Masons will be inconvenienced by the removal, but, believing that these brethren will cheerfully sacrifice personal conveniences for the general good of the Craft, we indulge the hope that the minority, as well as the majority, of Liberty Lodge will indorse our action, and together stand by their time-honored Lodge "ever emulating each other as to who can best work and best agree."

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

GEO. P. HARRISON JR.,
Chairman.

REPORT ON BY-LAWS.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

The Committee on By-Laws beg leave to report that the By-laws of Temple Lodge No. 425 passed under the inspection of a proper committee at the last communication of this Grand Lodge, and a report was made thereon, recommending an amendment and the adoption of said by-laws. Said report was concurred in.

This committee cannot, therefore, see any occasion for further action in the premises, except it be to recommend that they be approved, as amended.

The by-laws of George Wilson Lodge No. 424 have been examined, and this commitee recommend that Sections 2, 3, 4, and 6, of Article VII, be stricken out. Also, that Subdivision 4, Section 3, Article IX, be stricken out.

With the amendments suggested, it is the opinion of the committee that said by-laws are in accordance with the Constitution and regulations of this Grand Lodge; and we therefore recommend their approval.

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted.

J. M. CARMICHAEL,
Chairman.

Brother P. G. M. Isaiah A. Wilson offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

TO AMEND RULE 19 OF THE CONSTITUTION.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare a suitable amendment to Rule 19, of Article VII, of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, in relation to Trials and Appeals, as to the effect of *reversals* by the Grand Lodge, and report to the next Grand Communication.

ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

The Grand Lodge resumed the election of Grand Officers, the same brothers acting as Tellers, and the election resulted as recorded in the proceedings of yesterday morning.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

Brother Oliver S. Beers, Chairman of the Committee on Finance, made report, and the report was received and concurred in.

(For Report see Appendix.)

REPORT ON ENDOWMENT.

Brother Thomas T. Rowland, from the Committee on Endowment, made report in favor of the Endowment Plan, and, after full and free discussion, the report was laid on the table.

Brother Myles J. Greene offered the following resolutions, and they were adopted:

THANKS TO RETIRING G. M. ARMSTRONG.

Resolved 1, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are due and hereby tendered to our much esteemed retiring Grand Master, H. Clay Armstrong, for the ability, zeal, and devotion, which he has so conspicuously exhibited in the discharge of the onerous, often difficult, and sometimes delicate, duties annexed to the office of Grand Master for the past two years.

Resolved 2, That a special committee of three be appointed, whose duty it shall be to procure a suitable testimonial to be presented by this Grand Lodge to Past Grand Master Armstrong, as a token of its esteem for him personally, and as an evidence of its appreciation of his faithful and efficient services as its Grand Master.

And the committee was appointed as follows:

Brothers—

Myles J. Greene,
Joseph H. Johnson,
James H. Joiner.

Past Grand Master, Henry Clay Armstrong, replied to

the resolutions in a short and eloquent address, and before he took his seat, Brother John W. Bush, of Union Lodge No. 50, arose to his feet, and said that his lodge had deputed him to present to retiring Grand Master Armstrong,

A PAST MASTER'S JEWEL,

for his services and his kindness in officiating in his lodge in installing the officers thereof on the 24th of June last, and for instructions given to his lodge during his visit.

Brother John W. Bush, from the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in :

REPORT ON DOINGS OF GRAND OFFICERS.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama :

From the best information we have, we are delighted to report, that the trusts reposed by this Grand Lodge in its Grand Officers have been executed by them with fidelity; and that they are deserving of the thanks of this Grand Body for the energy and zeal manifested by them during the past year.

We are informed that our retiring Most Worshipful Grand Master has, during the past Masonic year, visited lodges in remote localities, and awakened in them a new life, never before felt. We think it due him to especially call attention to his official acts in this respect. The official acts of all of our Grand Officers are in every respect highly commendable.

J. W. BUSH, Chairman,
RALPH T. ARMSTRONG,
W. R. HANSARD,
SOLON E. HEARD,
R. T. EWING.

Brother Alexander McCollister, from the Committee on

Chartered Lodges No. 1, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 1.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 1, respectfully report that they have examined the returns submitted to them, and find the following

CORRECT:

Rising Virtue	No.	4	Rising Sun	No.	29
Moulton	"	6	Washington	"	36
Macon	"	7	Wetumpka	"	39
Farrar	"	8	Mobile	"	40
Royal White Hart	"	10	Livingston	"	41
Florence	"	14	Leighton	"	43
Athens	"	16	Warren	"	47
Dale	"	25	Demopolis	"	49
LaFayette	"	26	Union	"	50
Selma Fraternal	"	27			

INCORRECT:

MONTGOMERY No. 11.—Incorrectly indorsed on the back as No. 22, in the table of Fees—Passing $5.00, and in the footing of the Return it is put down at $6.00.

SAINT ALBANS No. 22.—W. M. and S. W. are set down as *pro tem.* officers, under head of remarks the secretary should have stated why, as neither of them is reported dead or absent permanently.

GEORGE WASHINGTON No. 24.—One M. M. set down under the head of E. A. and F. C., and 1 F. C. put down under the head of E. A.

MARENGO No. 28.—On the back of Return it is indorsed—dues for *present* year 1878, dues for *past* year 1879; dates should be transposed.

AUTAUGA No. 31.—W. M. signed the return in the wrong place.

COURTLAND No. 37.—Number and name not indorsed on the back, no year or dues indorsed on the back, Recapitulation not filled out, names of members not numbered, table of Dues not filled out, verification not filled out, not signed by the W. M.; and name and number of the lodge not filled out, suspension N. P. D. dated June 21st, when they should be dated June 3; seal illegible.

HIRAM No. 42.—Return recites—commencing on the 15th November 1879, when it should be 1878, number of members not inserted in table

of Dues, name of one reinstated not given in the table of Dues—therefore owes the G. L. 50 cents.

GASTON No. 44.—Verification dated before the expiration of the Masonic year.

HARMONY No. 46.—No date to Suspensions N. P. D., otherwise a very neat Return.

Fraternally submitted.

ALEXANDER McCOLLISTER,
Chairman.

Brother Horatio C. Grayson, from the Committee on Dispensations No. 2, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON DISPENSATIONS NO. 2.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

The Committee on Dispensations No. 2, having examined the Minutes of Temple Lodge No. 425 U. D., respectfully report that they find the minutes neatly kept and generally in proper form; but they show errors and irregularities in the proceedings of the Lodge. It is recited in the beginning, that under a Dispensation (which is copied) the Lodge was organized by Brother John G. Apsey, W. M., then follows the minutes of the 1st Communication, from which it appears that only six of the members to whom the Dispensation was issued were present, and that the Worshipful Master appointed all the officers except the Station officers. This is all that is shown in reference to the organization of the Lodge and the appointment of officers. At some of the Regular Communications there were only six members present. The proceedings of one Called Meeting were not read at the next succeeding Regular Communication. The minutes of succeeding Communications no where show that the Minutes of this Called Communication were ever approved by the Lodge. The dates of the Communications are none of them given according to Masonic usage. The last Communication held by the Lodge was on the 4th of August, 1879.

The Lodge asks a continuance of the Dispensation; but in the opinion of this Committee, the Dispensation having been renewed at the last Communication of this Grand Lodge, another renewal can not be granted. They suggest to the brethren of this Lodge, a careful study of the Consti-

tution, Edicts, and Resolutions of the Grand Lodge. The Committee recommend that a Charter be granted to said Lodge.

Fraternally submitted.

H. C. GRAYSON,
Chairman.

Brother Rufus W. Cobb, the Grand Senior Warden, offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

AS TO MOSCOW LODGE NO. 206.

Resolved, That Moscow Lodge No. 206, have leave to Dimit all its members except seven, and then surrender its charter, and the Grand Secretary shall then give certificates to the remaining members.

Brother John G. Harris offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

CHARTER TO GEORGE WILSON LODGE NO. 424.

Resolved, That a Charter be granted to George Wilson Lodge No. 424, located at York, in the County of Sumter, as soon as it sends up its minutes to the Grand Secretary, to be examined by him, provided he finds them correct, at the same time returning the Dispensation under which it has been working.

Brother William R. Horn offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

CERTIFICATE TO WILLIAM H. EVINGTON.

Resolved, That the R. W. Grand Secretary be authorized to furnish Brother William H. Evington a certificate of membership on his paying the sum of two dollars, Brother Evington having been a member of Ashland Lodge No. 179, which forfeited its charter in 1866.

Brother John Gindrat Winter proposed the following amendment to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, and being approved by one-third of the members present,

was ordered to be entered on the minutes, and be thereby submitted to the several subordinate chartered lodges:

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.

Resolved, That section 24 of Article VI of the Constitution be amended as follows: After the words, "said sentence to remain in force until all dues are paid," insert the following: "*Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to prevent the Master from performing this duty, at any subsequent regular communication where dues shall, at such subsequent communication, remain unpaid for said period."

On motion of Brother Isaac C. Hall, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the

INSTALLATION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

And the newly elected and appointed Grand Officers were then Installed in Ample Form, the M. W., the retiring Grand Master, Henry Clay Armstrong, officiating.

REPORT ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

Brother William S. Foster, Chairman of the Committee on Leave of Absence, made report, and the report was received and concurred in, and ordered to be filed.

The following were announced by the M. W. Grand Master as the appointed Officers and Standing Committees of the Grand Lodge:

GRAND OFFICERS.

Rev. William C. Bledsoe.....Grand Chaplain.
DeWitt C. White.....Grand Marshal.
Isaac A. Hall.....Senior Grand Deacon.
.....Junior Grand Deacon
Adam R. Baker.....Grand Steward.
John W. Martin.....Grand Steward.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Oliver S. Beers.....Mobile.
Isaac Heyman.....Opelika.
Alexander McCollister.....Cross Plains.
James G. Cowan.....Union Springs.
William W. Harder.....Spring Hill.

SUSPENSIONS, EXPULSIONS, AND APPEALS.

William Y. Titcomb.....Monroeville.
John A. Padgett.....Rutledge.
George R. Farnham.....Evergreen.
Thomas T. Rowland.....Tuscumbia.
Horatio C. Grayson.....Choctaw Corner.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

Joseph H. Johnson, M D.....Talladega.
Wilson Williams.....Opelika.
Rufus W. Cobb.....Montgomery.
Palmer J. Pillans.....Mobile.
Isaiah A. Wilson.....Union Springs.

WORK.

James M. Brundidge.....Decatur.
James H. Joiner.....Talladega.
Myles J. Greene, M. D.....Talladega.
James A. Wood, M. D.....Pleasant Hill.
Robert J. Redden.....Moscow.

MINUTES READ.

There being no further business to be brought before the Grand Lodge at this Grand Communication, the minutes were read and approved.

CLOSED.

And then, after solemn prayer to the Throne of Grace by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama and its Masonic Jurisdiction was closed in Ample Form, and the M. W. Grand Master's Gavel fell at 15 minutes to 11 o'clock P. M.

DANIEL SAYRE,
Grand Secretary.

APPENDIX.

GRAND SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT.

M. W. GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA,

In Account with DANIEL SAYRE,

Grand Secretary.

1878.		CR.		
December	4	By Dues at this Grand Communication		$4,080 25
	4	Cash received for Charters $35 each		105 00
		Hilton No. 419.....		
		Shorterville No. 422.		
		Daniel Pratt No. 426		
	4	Contingent Fund.....		900 00
		BACK DUES.		
	21	By Dues from Shiloh No. 105.....$	21 50	
1879.				
January	15	Black Oak No. 397....	17 50	
	24	Herndon No. 125.....	15 00	
February	9	York No. 211.....	8 50	
	9	Athens No. 16.....	27 00	
January	17	Jonesboro No. 315....	17 00	
	21	Wilson Williams No. 351	12 00	
July	14	Pondtown No. 409....	7 00	
August	1	Spring Hill No. 217...	16 50—	142 00
1878.		INDIVIDUAL DUES.		
November	23	J. H. Milam, D. S. Roberson, E. K. Davis, Allen R. Davis, Elijah B. Farmer, of Youngville Lodge No. 326.....	7 50	
December	5	J. J. Knight, of Youngville No. 326..	1 50	
1879.				
January	15	John T. Glenn, of Rockford No. 137.	4 50	
February	3	P. L. Black, of Youngville No. 326..	1 50	
	3	John Ogletree and S. J. Williams, of Youngville No. 326.....	3 00	
	4	Milton P. Creel, of Marion No. 34..	10 00	
	8	J. G. Michael & J. G. Coats of No. 372	4 00	
March	12	Jasper Dillard of No. 202.....	1 50	
April	25	John Gunn, Dempsey A. Bonner, William P. Mauldin, Joel B. Wagner, David L. Peel, of Isney No. 234	5 00	
		Carried forward.....$	38 50	$5,227 25

		Brought forward	$ 38, 50—	$5,227	25
May	9	Mark L. F. Renfroe, William S. Hurt, of Warrior Stand No. 115...	4 00		
	23	James L. Bowden, Sycamore No. 328	1 00		
June	20	Joseph O. King, Sycamore No. 328..	1 00		
July	21	Gilder, Kelly, Webb, Reid, Walker and Gunter, of Goliad No. 370....	6 00		
	26	Lewis Henderson, of Belmont No. 372	2 00		
November	13	John M. Yates, of Sycamore No. 328.	1 00—	53	50
				$5,280	75

1878. DR.

December	13	Amount paid Grand Treasurer on account of Dues received at last Annual Communication.....	$3,884 55		
	13	Amount paid Grand Treasurer on account of 20 per cent of Dues due permanent Trust Fund.....	195 70—	$4,080	25
1879.					
March	12	Amount paid Grand Treasurer on account of Back Dues received and Individual Dues.....	173 60		
	12	Amount paid Grand Treasurer.....	26 40—	$ 200	00
1878.					
December	13	Amount paid Grand Treasurer for 3 Charters issued.....:....		105	00

Hilton No. 419.
Shorterville No. 422.
Daniel Pratt No. 426.

1879. SUNDRY BILLS AS FOLLOWS:

Paid negro labor.....	$ 26	25	
Gas bills.....	18	60	
Postage.....	73	00	
Water-rate.....	5	00	
Joel White.....	20	25	
Barrett & Brown.....	530	75	
C. Paravicini, furniture for office.	30	00	
Joseph & Anderson—Coal.....	13	50	
Hardie & Co.....	2	75	
Wallin, oil painting.....	31	00	
Gerrish, two paintings G. M's...	60	00	
Expressage.....	2	00—	$ 813 10
November 26 Paid Grand Treasurer.....			82 40
			$5,280 75

DANIEL SAYRE,
Grand Secretary.

GRAND TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT.

WILLIAM H. DINGLEY, Grand Treasurer,

In Account with the GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA.

1878		DR.			
December	2	To balance			$505 95
	13	Received from Grand Secretary	$3,858 15		
1879					
May	12	Received from Grand Secretary	200 00		
November	26	" " " "	82 40	—	4,140 55
					$4,646 50
1878		CR.			
December	4	Com. on Work, M. J. Greene....19	27 00		
	4	Com. on Work, J. H. Joiner.....20	35 00		
	4	Grand Chaplain.....21	10 25		
	4	W. Y. Titcomb.....22	25 00		
	5	Com. on Work, J. A. Wood.....24	30 00		
	5	Com. on Foreign Correspondence.25	200 00		
	5	Grand Master.....26	30 00		
	5	J. H. Bankhead.....27	50 00		
	6	A. R. Baker.....28	168 50		
	6	J. M. Brundidge.....29	65 00		
	6	Grand Steward.....30	50 00		
	6	Grand Tiler.....31	100 00		
	6	Rent of Offices and Hall.....32	800 00		
	13	Grand Secretary.....33	1,000 00		
	13	Grand Treasurer.....34	150 00		
	13	Contingent Fund.....35	900 00		
1879					
January	3	Com. on Work, T. P. Brewer.....36	26 50		
February	15	Grand Master 37	100 00		
March	7	Com. on Correspondence.....38	30 00		
May	10	Grand Master.....39	50 00		
July	3	" " 40	50 00		
	3	Trustees of Permanent Fund (see proceedings '75, p. 66.....	587 90	—	4,485 15
	4	Balance on hand.....			161 35
					$4,646 50

December 1, 1879.

WILLIAM H. DINGLEY,
Grand Treasurer

REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF PERMANENT TRUST FUND.

TRUSTEES OF PERMANENT TRUST FUND,

In Account with the GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA.

1878		DR.		
December	—	To balance	$ 195 66	
	13	Rec'd of Grand Treasurer bal. due '78	587 90	
	13	" " Secretary charters...	105 00	
	13	" " Secretary on account	222 10	
1879				
		Interest on $2,700 6 per cent. bonds, January and July	162 00	
		Interest on $1,000 4½ per cent. bonds, March, June, Sept. and Dec.	45 00	
		Interest on $1,200 4 per cent. bonds, January, April, July and October.	48 00	
		Interest on $1,200 4 per cent. bonds, April, July and October	36 00	
		Interest on $2,700 4 per cent. bonds, October	27 00	
July	18	Received for $2,700 6 per cent. bonds, called	2,700 00	$4,128 66

1879		CR.		
January	11	By $1,200 4 per cent. bonds	1,200 00	
July	18	$2,700 4 per cent. bonds	2,700 00	
	18	Exchange, express charges, &c.	17 37	
	18	Premium on $3,900 4 per cent. bonds	68 02	
	18	Balance	143 27	4,128 66

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG,
DANIEL SAYRE,
WILLIAM H. DINGLEY,
Trustees.

Montgomery, Dec. 1, 1879.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Finance, having carefully examined and attested the correctness of the several financial reports and vouchers referred to them, beg leave to report the following condensed statement of the fiscal operations of the Grand Lodge for the year ending November 30th, A. D. 1879, viz.:

RECEIPTS.

To balance on hand Nov. 30, 1878, as per last report		$ 505 95
Cash paid in for regular dues accruing 1878 (of which $816 05 belongs to "P. Trust Fund")		4,080 25
Cash for back dues paid in 1878-79 (of which 20 per cent., or $28 40 is due "P T. Fund".....		142 00
Cash in 1878-79 for individual dues		53 50
Cash received for charters 1878, due "P. T. Fund"	105 00	
Total receipts.....		$4,886 70

DISBURSEMENTS.

By cash paid appropriation for ordinary expenses 1878-79 (including $30 00 to Chairman of Com. on Correspondence, expenses while in Montgomery correcting proof, &c.)	3,810 35	
Cash paid to Trustees of P. T. Fund, viz.: arrearage 1877 78 $587 90, and on account of current dues 1878, $327 10.....	915 00	
Total disbursements		4,725 35
Balance.....		$ 161 35

Showing a surplus of receipts over disbursements of one hundred and sixty-one 35-100 dollars, being the amount of cash balance in the hands of the R. W. Grand Treasurer Dec. 1st, 1879. This amount, however, is less than is due for current arrearages to the Permanent Trust Fund, and should be appropriated to that fund together with a sufficient sum from current receipts to pay all arrearages of 1878 due that fund, such arrearage being estimated by your committee at $622 35.

With this intimation of the fact that the receipts of the Grand Treasury are not sufficient, by $461 00, to meet all legitimate demands thereon, but expressing the belief that we can in this report suggest a remedy for this (twice) recurring deficiency, they proceed to estimate, approximately, the receipts, and to recommend the appropriations needed to defray Grand Lodge expenses, for the current fiscal year :

ESTIMATE OF RECEIPTS.

	Current.	T. Fund.
Cash balance in the hands of the M. W. Grand Treasurer as per his report	$ 161 35	
Regular Lodge dues 1879, $4,500 00, 90 per cent. of which is due to current, and 10 per cent. to P. T. Fund	4,050 00	$450 00
Back dues $500 00, divided as above	450 00	50 00
Receipts from sales of charters, dispensations, &c., belonging to Trust Fund		100 00
Total current	$4,661 35	
Total Trust Fund		$ 600 00
Making a total of estimated receipts footing		$5,261 35

APPROPRIATIONS.

To R. W. Bro. Daniel Sayre, for salary as Grand Secretary	$1,000 00	
W. H. Dingley, for salary as Grand Treasurer	150 00	
James Davidson, for salary as Grand Tiler	100 00	
Adam R. Baker, for salary as Senior Grand Steward	100 00	
Adam R. Baker, bill of labor and expenses 1879	53 50	
Jno. W. Martin, salary as Junior Grand Steward	50 00	
Chairman Committee on Foreign Correspondence.	200 00	
Chairman Committee on Suspensions, Expulsions, &c	35 00	
For expenses of Grand Officers as heretofore	100 00	
Members of Committee on Work (expenses)	200 00	
Grand Master's contingent—for traveling expenses in 1880 $230 00, and for deficiency in 1879, $20 00	250 00	
Rent of Grand Lodge Hall and offices	800 00	
Printing and Binding 500 copies of new Code ordered by resolution of the Grand Lodge (1879).	400 00	
Grand Secretary's contingent, for printing reports, stationery, incidentals, &c., as heretofore	900 00	
Total appropriations		$4,338 50

PERMANENT TRUST FUND.

Your Committee have examined the reports of the Trustees of this fund and find it correct and satisfactory. The condition of the fund is prosperous, and its steady as well as rapid increase in the past, as is indicated by the statement hereto appended, gives pleasant assurance of its future stability and usefulness. The only occurrence of the year tending to embarrass this fund was the return of $2,700 U. S. 6 per cent bonds called in by the Government and exchanged of necessity for their face equivalents in 4 per cent bonds, thus reducing the interest earnings, besides putting the fund to the cost in premiums and express charges incident to the transfer. This added to the failure in part of the Grand Lodge contribution from dues, heretofore explained, has lessened the income and to that extent the investments of the Trustees.

It is evident to your committee that the 20 per cent of Lodge dues heretofore ordered by the Grand Lodge to be contributed to this Trust Fund is more than its Treasury will bear with due regard to promptness in meeting the necessary demands upon it, and we propose, by resolution, to reduce that appropriation from twenty to ten per cent of all Lodge dues, and have made the estimates for this report on the basis of that proposed reduction. We are satisfied that with this change of appropriation the arrearage now due the Trust Fund can be speedily made up, and it is evident that either that or some other reduction of appropriations must be resorted to in order to relieve our financial embarrassment. We know of no other possible reduction of expenditures than the one proposed.

We have embodied in the resolution above referred to a clause authorizing the Trustees to invest the future earnings and receipts of the fund in United States bonds, or State of Alabama securities, at their option. At the time this fund was suggested, and the rules governing its investment were adopted, the securities of our own State were not as well established as now, in character or value, while Government bonds, paying 6 per cent interest, were easily acquired at fair rates of premium, and they were at that time undoubtedly entitled to the preference given them in our restricting the Trustees to investments in such securities. While these bonds are still desirable for their undoubted security, and entitled to preference even at the reduced rate of interest, yet there are frequent fluctuations or advances in the premium rate asked for them by holders, which tend both to confuse the purchasers and lessen their cheapness as an investment. On the other hand, Alabama securities, now of established credit and value, are not subject to such advances or fluctuations

of market rates, and as the Trustees may, by having the option of investing hereafter in United States or Alabama securities, be aided in the judicious and *prompt* investment of the funds confided to them, we have recommended that such option be conceded to them. Referring to the report of the Trustees, submitted to this Annual Communication, we state the operations for the year as follows:

STATEMENT.

Received from Grand Lodge contributions	$ 915 00	
Interest collected	318 00	
Balance on hand December, 1878	195 66	
Total actual receipts		$1,428 66
Expended in the purchase of 4 per cent U. S. bonds, value of	$1,200 00	
And for expenses and premium (on $3,900 of 4 per cent bonds, $2,700 of which were call 6 per cent bonds, *exchanged* for 4 per cents.)	85 39	
Total expenditures		1,285 39
Leaving a cash balance on hand December 1st, 1879, of		$ 143 27

The fund now holds, besides this balance (and the claim against the Grand Treasurer for $622 35, arreages of Grand Lodge contributions) the following U. S. bonds, to-wit: $1,000 4½ per cents and $5,100 4 per cents.—in all, **$6,100 00.** The incomes of the Trust Fund for the current year, from all sources, will probably not exceed $1,200, including the above cash balance.

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted.

OLIVER S. BEERS, Chairman.
ALONZO G. STOREY,
BENJAMIN F. McGAUGHY,
P. M. BRUNER,
ABIJAH HALEY.

Resolutions.

Resolved, That the general regulations, adopted on December 9th, A. D. 1875, by this Grand Lodge, constituting the fund known as the "Permanent Trust Fund," and providing rules for the government of the Trustees thereof, be and are hereby amended so as to require the contribution to said fund by this Grand Lodge of ten per cent only, instead of 20 per

cent as heretofore, of its income derived from what is known as annual Lodge dues. Also,

That the rules governing the Trustees of said fund be so amended as to permit the investment, in whole or in part, of any trust funds coming into their possession *hereafter*, either in United States bonds or in Alabama securities, at their option, using their best judgment in such investments and having in view the permanent safety and steady increase of the fund intrusted to them.

MEMORANDA.

REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER GRAND LODGES NEAR THE GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA.

WILSON WILLIAMS	*Opelika*	Arkansas.
——— ———	——— ———	Brazil.
——— ———	——— ———	Canada.
ROBERT D. WEBB, M. D.	*Livingston*	District Columbia.
MORRIS K. TAYLOR	*Meridianville*	England.
DAVID CLOPTON	*Montgomery*	Florida.
JOSEPH H. JOHNSON, M. D	*Talladega*	Georgia.
JOHN GIDEON HARRIS	*Livingston*	Idaho.
DANIEL SAYRE	*Montgomery*	Illinois.
PELEG BROWN	*Mobile*	Indiana.
DANIEL SAYRE	*Montgomery*	Iowa.
WILLIAM A. O'HARA, M. D.	*Harpersville*	Ireland.
JOHN J. DELCHAMPS	*Mobile*	Italy.
——— ———	——— ———	Kansas.
DANIEL SAYRE	*Montgomery*	Kentucky.
DAVID CLOPTON	*Montgomery*	Louisiana.
JAMES B. LUCKIE, M. D.	*Birmingham*	Maine.
JOEL WHITE	*Montgomery*	Maryland.
——— ———	——— ———	Minnesota.
THOMAS M. BRAGG, M. D.	*Greenville*	Mississippi.
DANIEL SAYRE	*Montgomery*	Missouri.
PALMER J. PILLANS	*Mobile*	Nebraska.
PALMER J. PILLANS	*Mobile*	New Mexico.
OLIVER S. BEERS	*Mobile*	New Jersey.
HENRY CLAY TOMPKINS	*Montgomery*	New York.
GEORGE D. NORRIS, M. D.	*New Market*	North Carolina.
DANIEL SAYRE	*Montgomery*	Nova Scotia.
DANIEL SAYRE	*Montgomery*	Oregon.
ISAIAH A. WILSON	*Union Springs*	Pennsylvania.
GEORGE D. NORRIS, M. D.	*New Market*	Tennessee.
NATHANIEL D. CROSS	*Selma*	Texas.
DANIEL SMITH	*Mobile*	Vermont.
——— ———	——— ———	West Virginia.
PALMER J. PILLANS	*Mobile*	Wisconsin.

MEMORANDA.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA NEAR OTHER GRAND LODGES.

ELBERT H. ENGLISH	*Little Rock*	Arkansas.
PEDRO ANTONIO GOMEZ	*Rio Janeiro*	Brazil.
SAMUEL B. HARMAN	*Toronto*	Canada.
PHILLIP H. HOOE	*Washington*	District Columbia.
BRACSTON BAKER	*London*	England.
WILLIAM A. LOVE, M. D.	*Atlanta*	Georgia.
CHARLES P. BILDERBACK	*Boise City*	Idaho.
JAMES A. HAWLEY	*Dixon*	Illinois.
JAMES S. MURROW	*Atoka*	Indian Territory.
MARTIN H. RICE	*Indianapolis*	Indiana.
OZIAS P. WATERS	*Muscatine*	Iowa.
FRANCIS QUIN	*Dublin*	Ireland.
THOMAS J. ANDERSON	*Topeka*	Kansas.
CHARLES TILDEN	*Louisville*	Kentucky.
SAMUEL H. TODD	*New Orleans*	Louisiana.
JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND	*Portland*	Maine.
WILLIAM M. ISAAC	*Baltimore*	Maryland.
RICHARD A. JONES	*Rochester*	Minnesota.
FRANK BURKITT	*Okolona*	Mississippi.
JAMES E. CADLE	*Chillicothe*	Missouri.
JAMES W. CHADDUCK	*Nebraska City*	Nebraska.
WILLIAM S. WHITEHEAD	*Newark*	New Jersey.
DAVID J. MILLER	*Santa Fe*	New Mexico.
DANIEL T. WALDEN	*New York*	New York.
DONALD W. BAIN	*Raleigh*	North Carolina.
ROBERT C. FRASER	*Halifax*	Nova Scotia.
JAMES R. BAILEY	*Corvallis*	Oregon.
RICHARD VAUX	*Philadelphia*	Pennsylvania.
TOWNSEND A. THOMAS	*Clarkesville*	Tennessee.
HENRY H. SMITH	*Rutland*	Vermont.
EDWARD M. LACKLAND	*Charlestown*	West Virginia.
JOSEPH HAMILTON	*Milwaukee*	Wisconsin.

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

With the number of Members, amount of Dues paid to the Grand Lodge, and the number of those Entered, Passed, Raised, Affiliated, Rejected, and Dimitted, since last Return.

Lodge Number.	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members.	Amount of Dues.	Entered	Passed	Raised	Affiliated	Rejected	Dimitted
4	Rising Virtue	33	$15 50	.	.	.	3	.	2
6	Moulton	49	21 50	.	.	.	.	.	2
7	Macon	31	14 00	2	1	1	1	.	1
8	Farrar	22	11 00	.	.	.	.	.	5
10	Royal White Hart	42	21 00	1	1	.	1	.	.
11	Montgomery	60	30 00	4	4	3	3	.	.
14	Florence	43	20 00	5	5	4	2	.	.
16	Athens	51	23 00	.	.	.	.	.	4
22	Saint Albans	21	10 50	2	2	1	2	.	2
24	George Washington	21	10 00	2	2	1	.	.	2
25	Dale	43	20 00	.	.	.	.	.	1
26	La Fayette	35	17 00	.	1	1	1	1	.
27	Selma Fraternal	84	42 00	.	.	.	1	.	3
28	Marengo	14	14 00	.	.	.	2	.	1
29	Rising Sun	33	16 50	2	1	2	.	.	.
31	Autauga	34	16 50	.	.	.	1	.	.
36	Washington	27	14 00	1	1	1	.	.	1
37	Courtland	22	10 50	2	2	2	.	.	2
39	Wetumpka	34	16 00	3	3	2	1	.	1
40	Mobile	101	49 50	.	.	.	30	1	1
41	Livingston	32	15 50	.	.	1	1	1	2
42	Hiram	36	18 00	.	.	.	.	1	1
43	Leighton	21	9 00	1	.	.	.	1	1
44	Gaston	20	9 00	4	4	3	.	.	.
46	Harmony	69	34 50	2	.	.	1	1	2
47	Warren	23	. . .	.	.	.	.	.	.
49	Demopolis	33	16 00	.	1	1	1	.	1
50	Union	44	21 00	.	1	1	2	.	1
52	New Market	24	12 00	.	.	.	.	.	3

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

Lodge Number.	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members	Amount of Dues.	Entered	Passed	Raised	Affiliated	Rejected	Dimitted.
53	Greening	34	$16 59	..	..	..	1	..	1
54	Amity	39	18 50	.	..	..	2	..	2
55	Mount Moriah	30	29 50	..	..	..	2	..	..
56	Troy	93	44 00	4	4	3	6	1	4
57	Tuskegee	42	22 50	1	..	.	.	.	4
59	Benton	31	15 00	1	2	3	2	2	2
61	Tompkinsville	16	7 50	..	1	1	1	1	1
62	Saint Johns	51	24 00	1	..	..	..	..	..
63	Social	31	20 00	.	.	..	..	..	5
64	Eureka	53	25 50	..	..	..	3	.	6
65	Liberty	24	12 00	.	..	.	..	..	..
67	Hampden Sidney	24	12 00	..	1	1	4	1	2
68	Holsey	11	5 50	.	.	..	..	..	..
69	Howard	62	29 50	.	.	..	..	.	1
70	Central	39	19 50	4	4	5	1	.	1
71	Tohopeka	40	19 50	.	..		..	..	..
72	Widow's Sun	21	10 00	..	1	1	.	..	..
74	Solomon	28	12 50	.	..		..	..	2
75	Cokerville	31	.....	2	2	1	5	3	1
76	Auburn	38	17 00	1	1	..	.	..	..
78	Crozier	30	15 00	..	.	1	1	..	..
79	Fredonia	17	7 50		..	..	..	.	2
80	Wilcox	20	10 00	1	1	.	..	1	1
81	Saint Stephens	27	26 50	3	2	1	..	..	..
83	Friendship	21	.	1	.	.	..	..	3
84	Erophotic	32	15 50	4	3	3	.	.	..
85	Meridian Sun	13	5 50		..	..	..	..	1
89	Prattville	39	19 50	.	..	.	.	..	2
90	Pfister	21	10 50		.	1		..	..
91	Henry	37	17 50	..	2	1	1	..	2
93	Sawyer	31	13 50		.		.	.	..
95	Danville	64	39 50	..	1	1	.	1	2
96	Tuckabatchee	34	17 00	7	8	8	2	2	..
97	Lozahatchee	51	25 00	1	1	1	..	..	7
98	Fulton	24	11 00	1	1	1		.	..
99	Salem	21	10 00	..	..		..	..	..
101	Hartwell	34	16 00	1	..	..	1	..	1
103	Benson	20	17 50	3	3	3	3	..	3
104	Good Samaritan	26	12 00	..	..	..	1	..	1
105	Shiloh	21	9 00	..	1	1	..	..	1

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

Lodge Number.	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members	Amount of Dues.	Entered	Passed	Raised	Affiliated	Rejected	Dimitted
106	Hermon	29	$13 50	3	3	3	1		2
107	Choctaw	25	12 00						
108	Oak Bowery	16	8 00	2	2	2			1
110	Forest Hill	36							
119	Notasulga	34	15 50	1	1	1	5		1
130	Camp Hill	24	12 00		1	1			1
123	Havana	18		1			1		
124	Felix	24	12 00	1					
125	Herndon	27	13 00						
126	Mortimer Reeder	21	9 50	1	1	1			2
127	Bolivar	43		1	1	2			
129	Geneva	28	24 50	4	3	2	1		2
131	Yorkville	34	16 50				1		
133	Loachapoka	24	12 00	3	3	3			3
134	Wiley	19	19 50						
135	Columbia	41	21 00	5	5	5	1		2
136	Unity	42	20 00				2		1
140	Shelby	51		4	4	3	4		5
141	Bethel	24	11 50				1	1	1
142	Baldwin	18	9 00	3	3	2			2
143	Burleson	29		1	1	1			
144	Daleville	13	6 00	1	1	1	4		2
145	Fraternity	33		1	1	1	2		
148	Cold Water	26	11 50	3	3	5	1		
151	Bladon Springs	14	6 50						
152	Mount Jefferson	18	18 50						
153	Monroeville	27	13 00						
154	Nixburg	19	8 00	2	2	1	1		1
155	Eastaboga	15	14 00						1
157	Somerville	32	16 00		1		1		6
158	Maysville	49							1
161	Pollick	39	18 50		1	1	3		1
163	Fayetteville Authentic	20	9 00						
166	Sumter	11	5 00						
168	Mount Hope	34	14 00		2	1	1		1
169	Buena Vista	12	6 50		1				
170	Elba	38	18 00						1
171	Clopton	13	6 50						1
172	Fellowship	44	20 50			1			
173	Andrew Jackson	106	52 00	12	12	10	3	1	3

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

Lodge Number.	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members	Amount of Dues.	Entered	Passed.	Raised	Affiliated	Rejected	Dimitted
176	Davie	12	$10 50	1	1	1	3	..	1
178	Desotoville	35	16 50	1	1	1	.	.	..
180	Mount Hilliard	14	7 00	..	.	..		..	2
181	Aberfoil	16	7 00	1	.	.	..	..	..
184	Brundidge	33	14 50	..		..	.	.	1
186	Catawla	26	11 50	.	.	..	..	..	1
188	Clintonville	24	12 00	1	1	1	..	1	..
190	Tombigbee	19	9 00	..	.	..	.	..	1
191	Brush Creek	13	6 50	..	..	..	.	..	1
192	Chattahoochee	14	7 00	.	.	..	1	..	1
193	Hopewell	32	15 50	6	6	7	..	..	2
198	Caledonia	14	6 50	1	1	1	1	..	3
199	Kialighee	26	13 00	1	3	3	..	1	3
200	Sylacauga	32	15 50	3	3	3	1	.	1
201	Helicon	26	29 50	.	.	.	2	.	3
203	Valley	14	7 00	.	.	.		..	1
204	Manning Spring	13	6 00	..		.	1	.	1
206	Moscow	25	23 50	..			1	.	1
207	Pettusville	27	11 00	..	.	1	..	2	2
208	Alexandria	19	9 00	2	.			..	4
209	Marshall	27	13 50	1	1	1	..	..	..
211	York	63	29 50	4	4	3	1		3
212	Putnam	44	41 00	3	3	3	2	.	3
213	Euclid		12 00			.	..	..	..
215	Builders	30	15 00	2	..		1	.	2
217	Spring Hill	15	7 00	..	.	..	3	..	..
218	Sam Dixon	36	17 50	.		.	4		1
219	Lineville	39	16 50	3	3	1	5	.	1
222	Western Star	27	12 50	1	1	1	.	.	1
224	Newton	38	18 50	5	6	6	1	.	3
225	Louisville	18	8 50	.	.	1	..		..
226	Santa Fe	27	12 50	1	1	1	1		..
227	James Paun	33	16 00	3	3	3	1	1	1
228	Dallas	30	13 00	.		..	3	..	..
233	Sepulga	18	7 50	..	..	..	2	..	..
235	Harpersville	26	13 00	..	.	..	1	1	1
237	Tallassee	17	8 00	.	..	..	1	..	1
238	Fairmount	17	15 50	2	2	2	1	1	2
241	Bowen	34	17 00	1	2	1	..	1	3
242	Coosa	25	12 50	3	3	2	..	..	2

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

Lodge Number.	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members	Amount of Dues.	Entered	Passed	Raised	Affiliated	Rejected	Dimitted
243	Ramer	17	$ 8 00	..	..	..	1	..	1
244	Dawson	39	18 50	1	1	..	1	..	2
245	John Payne	26	31 50	2	2	2	1	..	1
246	Harrison	29	12 00	1	1	1	..	..	1
248	Lawrence	38	18 00	..	..	..	2	..	1
249	Toluca	11	12 00	..	..	..	..	..	2
250	Amand	16	7 50	5	2	2	2	..	1
251	Camp Creek	19	9 00	..	..	..	..	..	2
252	North Port	34	....	1	1	..	..	..	..
256	Gaylesville	24	18 50	5	7	7	2	..	..
257	Ervin	36	14 50	..	..	2	..	..	1
258	Randolph	25	....	1	..	2	1	1	2
260	Bellville	26	12 50	..	..	..	..	..	..
261	Talladega	54	26 00	1	1	1	1	..	..
262	Highland	23	8 00	1	2	1	2	..	2
265	Meridian	38	17 00	1	2	2	..	..	..
266	Mount Pleasant	12	5 50	..	..	..	..	..	1
267	Wind Creek	27	27 00	1	1	1	..	..	..
270	Butler Spring	[redacted]	17 00	3	3	1	1	..	2
272	Clifton	23	11 50	1	1	..	..	..	..
274	Paint Rock	12	11 00	..	..	..	1	..	..
275	Frankfort	39	18 00	1	1	2	1	..	1
278	Northern	53	26 00	1	1	1	..	1	1
280	Springville	30	25 50	..	..	..	..	..	..
281	Charles Baskerville	29	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
283	Daviston	23	11 50	4	5	7	..	..	..
285	Georgiana	33	15 50	1	1	1	3	1	2
286	Walker	17	8 00	..	..	..	..	1	1
287	Clinton	31	15 00	..	..	..	1	..	2
290	Gillespie	11	5 50	1	..	..	..	..	..
291	Fort Deposit	13	14 00	..	..	..	1	..	2
301	Norris	43	21 50	3	2	2	1	..	..
304	Zion	27	13 00	1	1	..	..	..	..
305	Central City	65	32 50	1	1	1	3	1	4
315	Jonesborough	29	13 50	..	1	..	..	..	4
319	Cluttsville	11	.....	..	..	..	..	..	..
321	Pleasant Hill	43	17 50	5	5	5	1	..	1
323	Holly Grove	23	9 50	..	..	..	..	..	1
324	Viola	24	11 50	..	..	..	..	..	..
329	Madison Station	28	13 50	1	1	1	..	..	2

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

Lodge Number.	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members	Amount of Dues.	Entered	Passed	Raised	Affiliated	Rejected	Dimitted
331	Charity	19	$ 9 50	..	..	..	..	..	..
332	Blue Eye	20	10 00	..	..	..	..	..	..
334	Oliver	27	12 50	..	..	..	..	..	4
335	Nanafalia	17	8 50	..	..	..	..	1	..
337	Johnson	27	13 50	1	1	..	1	..	2
338	Georgiana Davis	31	13 50	3	3	3	2	..	..
339	Albert Pike	33	15 00	3	4	3	..	..	1
341	Ragan	29	13 00	2	1	1	1	..	..
344	Pikeville	33	.....	3	2	2	1	..	..
345	Echo	38	18 50	2	2	2	1	..	1
346	Hurtville	21	10 00	..	..	..	..	..	1
348	Bienville	41	20 00	1	..	..	1	..	..
349	Ozark	57	28 00	2	2	2	4	..	1
351	Wilson Williams	31	10 50	2	2	3	5	..	2
353	Rock Mills	39	34 00	..	1	1	..	..	2
355	Van Buren	41	38 00	3	3	3	2	..	..
357	Rutledge	19	8 50	1	1	1	4	..	..
358	Barbour	22	..	6	5	4	..	..	..
360	Newtonville	24	20 00	..	..	..	2	..	..
361	Town Creek	21	20 00	3	1	1	2	..	1
363	Chester	36	34 50	6	5	3	5	1	6
364	Pleasant Site	27	22 00	..	..	..	1	..	3
366	Cotaco	23	22 50	..	..	..	..	..	..
367	Chandler	25	11 50	1	1	1	..	..	..
368	Cross Plains	54	25 00	..	..	..	1	1	3
369	Athelstan	40	19 50	2	1	1	2	..	6
371	Russellville	31	15 00	2	3	2	..	..	..
373	Bell's Landing	20	9 00	..	..	..	..	..	..
375	Gainesville	35	16 50	..	..	..	2	1	1
376	Santa Creek	23	.....	2	2	1	2	..	..
377	Lake City	33	32 50	6	7	7	5	..	6
378	Weogufka	37	14 50	12	11	7	4	2	..
381	E. H. Cook	22	10 50	2	..	..	..	..	3
384	Birmingham Fraternal	42	21 00	2	1	1	6	..	3
386	Trinity	15	7 50	..	..	1	..	..	2
387	Blue Spring	12	6 00	..	..	..	1	1	2
388	Newburgh	42	19 00	5	6	6	2	..	4
391	North Border	16	.....	..	..	..	..	..	..
392	Hickory Flat	23	11 00	..	..	..	1	..	..
394	Valley Head	22	9 00	1	1	1	..	..	3

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

Lodge Number.	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members.	Amount of Dues	Entered.	Passed.	Raised.	Affiliated.	Rejected.	Dimitted.
395	Opelika	20	9 50				1		3
396	Falkville	31		1			1		
397	Black Oak	19	8 00	2	2	2			1
398	Hartselle	17	6 50		1	2			
399	Haw Ridge	15	7 50			1	1		1
400	Hanceville	23		1	1	1	3		1
402	Green Hill	27	12 50			2			
403	Childersburg	14	7 00	1	1				
404	Hoboken	13	6 00				1		1
405	Mineral Spring	18	18 50	3	5	4			2
406	Doric	25	12 00	3	3	3	1	1	
407	North River	14	7 00	2	2	1			
408	Hillsboro	18	9 00	1	1		1		
409	Pondtown	18	7 50	1	1	1			
410	Helena	33	16 00	7	5	6		4	2
411	Jemison	33	17 00	7	7	5	1	1	
412	Ambersou	48	22 00	11	10	11	7	1	
414	Sulphur Springs	14	5 50						1
415	Oak Level	22		2		1			
416	Williamsburg	15	7 00	1	1				
417	George Smith	16	7 00	1	1	1	1		
420	Broomtown	23	11 00	3	3	3			
421	Cullman Fraternal	25	10 00	1	3	2	1	1	1
422	Shorterville	30	14 00	5	5	3	4	1	
423	Clanton	33	15 50	4	4	4	8	1	
424	George Wilson, U. D	21		1	2	3	4	1	
425	Temple, U. D	18							
426	Daniel Pratt	21	11 50	10	12	10	3	3	

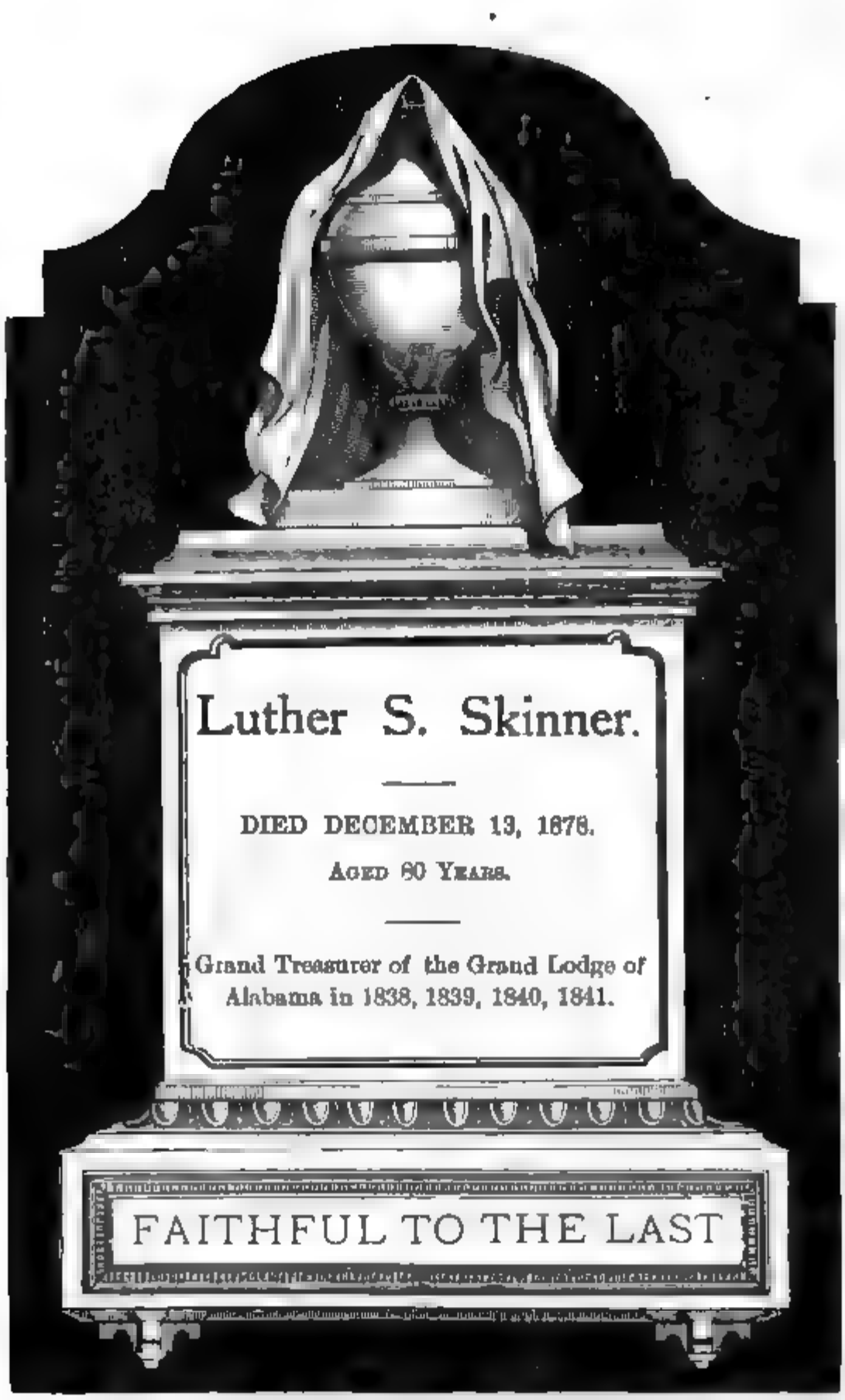
1879.

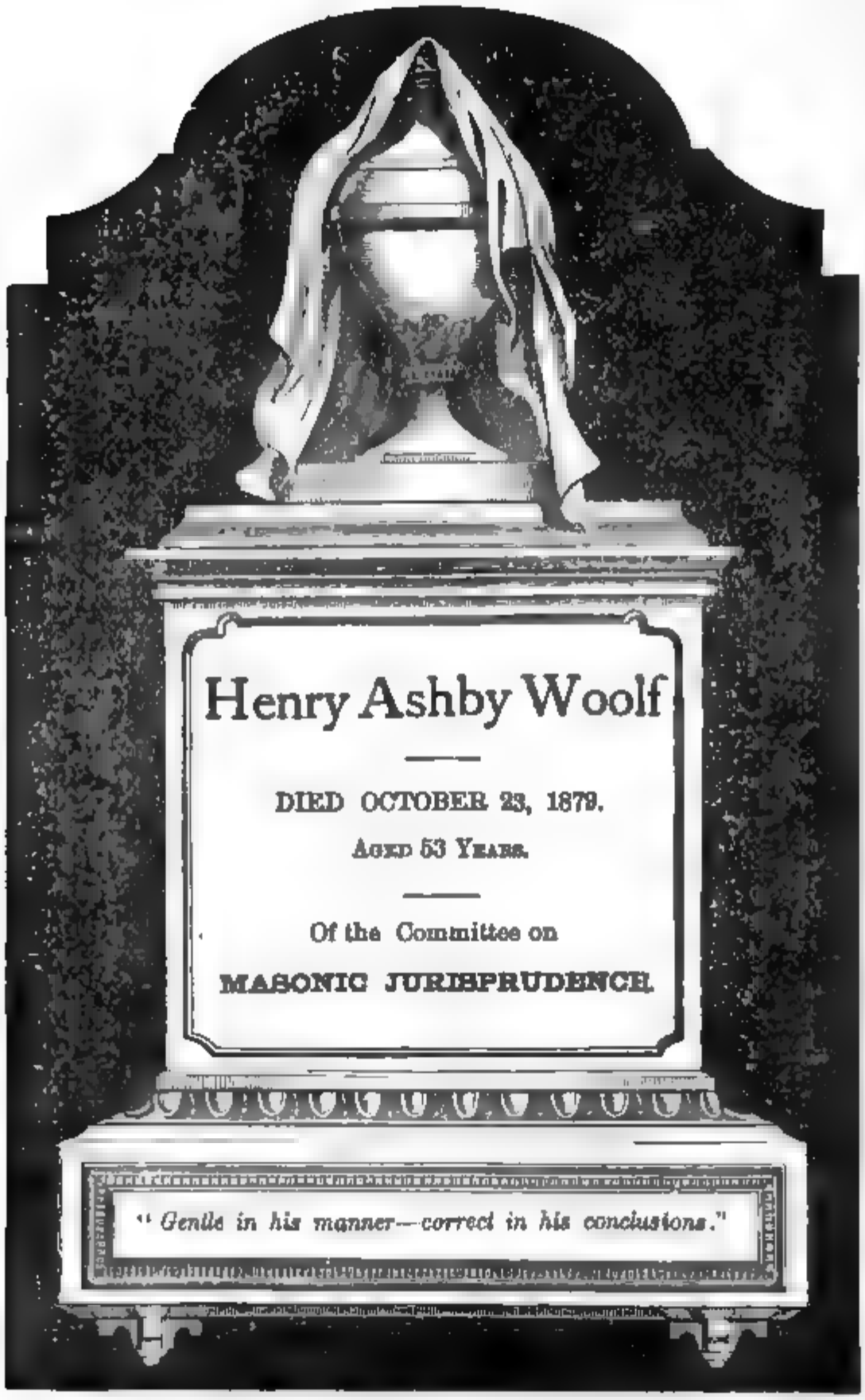
AT REFRESHMENT ABOVE.

Luther S. Skinner, Dec. 13, '78, 80 y'rs.	Rising Virtue	No.	4
Thomas Sanford, Oct. 24	Farrar	"	8
Washington M. Brandon	Florence	"	14
Henry Ashby Woolf, Oct. 23, 53 years	Saint Albans	"	22
Patterson B. Andrews, Nov. 27, 1878	George Washington	"	24
John McCaskill, March 16, 51 years Peyton D. Burford, March 27, 50 years. Alexander C. Matherson Jr. May 21, 29 y's Conrad W. Hare, M. G., July 16, 60 y'rs	Dale	"	25
Edward M. Vasser, Feb. 3 John Hinton, Sept. 19 Andrew J. Cox, Sept. 5	Selma Fraternal	"	27
William R. Duke, April 19, 46 years	Marengo	"	28
John W. Pou, Sept. —, 72 years	Autauga	"	31
William A McDonald, Sept. —	Courtland	"	37
Hugh S. Lide, Jan. 21. William G. Little Jr., July 24	Livingston	"	41
Philemon King. Dec. 14, 1878 John F. Alexander, Feb. 16	Leighton	"	43
John W. Johnston, Jan. 29	Harmony	"	46
Joseph Abraham, Aug. 8	Warren	"	47
Miles J. Herrington, March 2 John S. Beddinfield, April 16	Greening	"	53
John S. Meriwether, May 26 Levi Roden, June 26	Amity	"	54
Dabney Duncan, M. G., Mar. 15, 82 y'rs	Mount Moriah	"	55
Joseph P. French, Oct. 22	Troy	"	56
John U. Brown, March 23	Tuskegee	"	57
Daniel L. Smith, Feb. 26 John W. Mallett, March 6 James M. Amos, March 23 William H. Jordan, —— Andrew M. Black, April 6	Eureka	"	64
John S. Mayes, June 19, 59 years	Liberty	"	65
David C. McIntosh, ——	Tohopeka	"	71
Thomas H. Smith, Aug. 15	Solomon	"	74
Nicholas W. Persons, Feb. 6	Auburn	"	76
Allen Elston, May 21, 77 years William Johnston, May 28, 76 years Charles M. Martin, Aug. 6, 68 years	Crozier	"	78

Gabriel P. Moorer, Jan. 12	Erophotic	No.	84
Otto Hatimer, June 14			
Richard H. Lee, April 16			
William H. Pruitt, March 16, 35 years	Meridian Sun	"	88
John T. Hamilton, Jan. 10	Prattville	"	89
Levi Parish, Oct. 12	Henry	"	91
John C. Green, Sept. 4, 73 years	Sawyer	"	93
John E. Thompson, Feb. 15, 1878	Danville	"	95
James Glover, Aug. 25	Lozahatchee	"	97
Clement P. Casey, Oct. 26			
John Yoe, June 2, 59 years	Hartwell	"	101
Joseph A. Johnson, Aug. 17	Good Samaritan	"	104
Samuel C. Dailey, Jan. 13			
John Brock, March 19	Choctaw	"	107
William T. Mustin, April 15	Forest Hill	"	110
William S. Scarbrough, Feb. 5	Havana	"	123
Samuel Scarlet, April 1			
Adam H. Caperton, March 16, 40 years	Bolivar	"	127
James M. Weeks, Mar. 29	Geneva	"	129
John G. Hall, Feb. 19, 86 years	Yorkville	"	131
Malichi Ethridge, Dec. 13, '77, 63 years	Wiley	"	134
Andrew J. Bassett, June 19			
Wyley Alford, Nov. 22, 1878, 77 years	Columbia	"	135
Moses Mathis, June 3, 45 years			
John Johnston, Feb. 12	Shelby	"	140
Edward Robinson, July 24, 73 years	Baldwin	"	142
Thomas Thorn, Sept. 19	Burleson	"	143
James H Grigsby, Aug. 31	Fraternity	"	145
John A. Jones, June 22	Mount Jefferson	"	152
Lawrence S. Rekard, Aug. 4	Monroeville	"	153
William A. Morrow, Oct. 25, 1878	Somerville	"	157
John H. Walls, Oct. 15	Penick	"	161
Henry H. Stephens, Oct. 31	Sumter	"	166
Hodge L. Stephenson, Sept. 7	Mount Hope	"	168
William Gibson, March 16.	Fellowship	"	172
Hugh W. Caffey, June 14	Andrew Jackson	"	173
Samuel P. Bayne, Aug. 29			
William Bennett Sen'r, Feb. 4	Desotoville	"	178
J. Francis Watson, Feb. 23	Brundidge	"	184
Louis T. Smith, Oct. 22	Hopewell	"	193
John J. Ingram, May 5	Kialighee	"	199
Isaac Tucker, Jan. 10, 1878	Helicon	"	201
Herbert F. Hinds, Jan. 28, 1878			
William Duke, July 24, 1878			
Reuben Jefcoat, Oct. 18, 1878			
Alfred Bright, Feb. 9, 1879			
Arthur T. Young, Jan. 23, 1878	Moscow	"	206
Harry C. Redus, Nov. 6, 33½ years	Pettusville	"	207
Francis A. Province, March 11	Marshall	"	209
Charles P. Owen, April 5	York	"	211
E. Randolph Smith, Oct. 10, 52 years	Builders	"	215

Lemuel Sledge, April 2	Spring Hill	No.	217
James L. Williams, Aug. 1	Lineville	"	219
James Driggers, Sept. 26			
John Parker, Nov. 24			
Benjamin P. Portis, Dec. 17, '78, 56 y'rs	Western Star	"	222
Wesley H. Kirksey, Feb. —	Newton	"	224
Charles P. Mathews, Jan. —			
Francis M. Magler, Feb. 10	Santa Fe	"	226
Samuel T. Chesser, April 2	Fairmount	"	238
Hilliard J Hunter, ——	Coosa	"	242
Jabez P. Ralls, July 4			
Gilbert Long, Sept. 12, 68 years	Ramer	"	243
Elisha Lewis, Jan. 23	Harrison	"	246
Asbury W. Thompson, April 29	Gaylesville	"	256
Francis M. Longards, April 8	Ervin	"	257
John M. Hall, April 13	Frankfort	"	275
Thomas H. Ligon, Sept. 20			
William R. May, March 5, 56 years	Fort Deposit	"	291
Rodie Lyons, March 10	Norris	"	301
John Newberry, July 10			
Reuben L. Kay, Dec. 4, 1878	Central City	"	305
Alexander G. Wilson, Feb. 4			
Isaac Browne, Jan. 19	Jonesboro	"	315
Thomas McAdory, June 23			
Edward McMeans, Oct. 26			
Benjamin Steely Russ, April 14	Holly Grove	"	329
John W. Dial, Jan. 15	Nanafalia	"	335
Elijah Teague, March 10, 74 years	Ragan	"	341
John A. Wall, April 22	Wilson Williams	"	351
John H. Tidmore, July 18, 57 years	Van Buren	"	355
Amos L. Jones, Jan 6	Rutledge	"	357
Jesse N. Leverett, Oct. 27			
David C. Neyman, Oct. 23, 1878	Town Creek	"	361
Alfred A. Darnell, Nov. 5, 1878			
Joseph Lansdell, July 18			
David Ashton, Feb. 8, 1878	Chester	"	363
Macon A. Verser, May 2, 1878	Cotaco	"	366
Theophilus Moody, March 13	Cross Plains	"	368
Lawrence Pope, Dec. 22, 1878	Athelstan	"	369
Dempsey Harrison, Dec. 1, 1878			
Clement M. Dumas, June 18	Bell's Landing	"	373
John C. Pool, June 12, 46 years	Santa Creek	"	376
William S. Watkins, Sept.	Lake City	"	377
Robert Taylor, June 10, 82 years	Weogufka	"	378
Peter Holzschuher, March 4	Birmingham Fraternal	"	384
Wylie F. Bouldin, July 11, 47 years	Trinity	"	386
Richard H. Hudson, July 24	Hoboken	"	404
John M. Pickens, Oct. 13			
Andrew J. Cross, Feb. 13	Helena	"	410
Jacob S. Chesnutt, Jan. 20, 68 years	Clanton	"	420
Francis P. Marsh, July 30, 30 years			


Luther S. Skinner.
DIED DECEMBER 13, 1876.
AGED 60 YEARS.
Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Alabama in 1838, 1839, 1840, 1841.
FAITHFUL TO THE LAST


Henry Ashby Woolf
DIED OCTOBER 23, 1879.
AGED 53 YEARS.
Of the Committee on
MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.
"Gentle in his manner—correct in his conclusions."

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

FARRAR No. 8.—Robert J. Vann, Robert T. Emond, William McDonald, Henry R. Fulmer, Livingston Bailey—5.

ROYAL WHITE HART No. 10.—John Smithwick, James F. Walker, William A. Bishop—3.

MONTGOMERY No. 11.—Jefferson Falkner, Morris Franklin—2.

FLORENCE No. 14.—Jesse W. Brooks, William T. White, Brantley P. Joiner, Francis M. Posey, John H. Martin, William Holland—6.

ATHENS No. 16.—William Mason, William N. Haye, Rodah Horton—3.

GEORGE WASHINGTON No. 24.—Robert A. Ellis, Albert H. Sears—2.

LA FAYETTE No. 26.—Edmund W. Booker, Francis W. Moore, Joseph Ernst, Charles E. Waller—4.

SELMA FRATERNAL No. 27.—Benjamin D. Crum, Willis D. Clark, William H. Huston, Charles Kuhne. Edwin M. Werkheiser—5.

WASHINGTON No. 36.—Henry F. Newson, Martin D. Patterson, John L. Tompkins, John Curry—4.

COURTLAND No. 37.—Samuel W. Shackelford, Andrew J. Sykes, William Campbell, Edward F. Comegys, Edward J. Simmons—5.

MOBILE No. 40.—Edward E. England, Thomas Freeman, John R. Simpson, Mathias C. Osborn—4.

HARMONY No. 46.—Benjamin Morris—1.

DEMOPOLIS No. 49.—Alexander H. Armstrong, David Compton Sr.—2.

NEW MARKET No. 52.—Edward M. Rice—1.

GREENING No. 53.—Francis E. Richardson—1.

AMITY No. 54.—Robert H. Williams, George Storter, John F. Davis, Harry T. Herndon, James McKee Gould, Frederick H. Braune—6.

MOUNT MORIAH No. 55.—Ira Halbert, Amos A. Ball, Elihu Cox, David R. Dunlap, Charles T. Fort—5.

TROY No. 56.—Thomas O. Bower—1.

TUSKEGEE No. 57.—James A. Chapman, Lawrence Lewis, Roseberry E. Covington—3.

SOCIAL No. 63.—James A. Stewart, Fletcher G. Thweatt, William A. Wales—3.

EUREKA No. 64.—Comer W. Knight, Lewis D. G. Smith, Caleb B. Lampley—3.

HAMPDEN SIDNEY No. 67.—Milton A. Goree, Howell C. Bullock, Nathaniel Jeffries, Thomas Norris—4.

HOWARD No. 69.—David Croal—1.

CENTRAL No. 70.—James E. R. Davidson—1.

COKERVILLE No. 75.—William Martin, F. A. Mason, John Lyon, G. R. Scrogin, W. B. Booker, B. J. Goodwin, R. J. Booker—7.

CROZIER No. 78.—James E. Canada, James C. Wilson—2.

SAWYER No. 93.—Archibald T. Reaves, Wallace W. Dobson—2.

DANVILLE No. 95.—John Dutten, Taylor McMillan, Charles W. Speek, John P. M. Woodall, Mathew W. Woodruff, Middleton E. Woodall Alexander Gibson—7.

HARTWELL No. 101.—John L. Dodson, William E. Melon, Jesse O. Gorum, John U. Whitesides, James M. McLean, Toliver P. Givun, Columbus A. Orr, Richard G. Roberts, Benjamin F. Shuford—9.

BENSON No. 103.—Hugh M. Fasher, William Mills, Eldridge F. Fulton—3.

GOOD SAMARITAN No. 104.—John W. McCowen, James W. Dabbs, John Shank, Philomon S. Owen—4.

SHILOH No. 105.—William B. Doyle—1.

OAK BOWERY No. 108.—Lindsey C. Spratling, John S. P. Davis—2.

CAMP HILL No. 120.—David Sargeant, John R. Shepherd—2.

HAVANA No. 123.—Fletcher P. Matthews—1.

HERNDON No. 125.—John W. Cockrell, William H. H. Colvin, John W. Leatherwood, James Mize, James Rhodes, Marion A. Reynolds, Richard D. Templeton—7.

WILEY No. 134.—Jackson N. Rolo—1.

COLUMBIA No. 135.—McKay Alford, James B. Alford—2.

SHELBY No. 140.—David W. Caldwell, Elbert H. Sawyer, Thomas G. Evans, Alfred M. Lester, John Barnett, Matthew S. Wilson, James M. Fulton, Alonzo A. Brasher, Hamilton T. Beggs, Henry C. McAdams, Blanton Moore, Irvin Bailey, David O. McClendon, Malichi G. Rhodes, Green W. Lee, Talmon Vamon, J. Reid Morgan, David H. Dunlap, Elijah Blackerly, Warren M. Armstrong, Joseph C. Blake, David N. Williams, Richard Willis, Archibald Carter, Daniel W. Evans, James F. McLane, Christopher C. Smith—27.

BETHEL No. 141.—William W. Hilton, Noah P. Beason, Frederick Wagner, Abner W. Denman—4.

BURLESON No. 143.—Abner B. Overton, Dallas Summers—2.

DALEVILLE No. 144.—Jesse Pouncey, James Frank Pouncey, Thompson Donnell—3.

Bladon Springs No. 151.—George M. Watt—1.

Mount Jefferson No. 152.—Charles J. Floyd, John N. Hodge, James B. Jett, Thomas J. Yonge—4.

Monroeville No. 153.—Benjamin Crawford—1.

Nixburgh No. 154.—David L. McAlister, Thomas J. Nolen, William E. D. Moore—3.

Eastaboga No. 155.—James B. Brown, Zimri Henderson, Lilburn B. Miller, William C. Martin—4.

Penick No. 161.—Thomas Worrick—1.

Fayetteville Authentic No. 163.—James Perryman, John H. Townsend, Bailey A. Bowen—3.

Fellowship No. 172.—Levy Price, William J. Rozelle, James B. Hodo, John R. Burkhalter, Hays Rodgers—5.

Mount Hilliard No. 180.—James M. Dorn, James W. Hightower, Joseph Riley, Joseph W. Stone—4.

Catawla No. 186.—Henry W. Box, James E. Hall, James R. Jones, John B. Barr, John F. Green, Priestly E. Nicholson—6.

Tombigbee No. 190.—Joel O. Lipscomb—1.

Brush Creek No. 191.—Nathan H. Gulley—1.

Sylacauga No. 200.—William J. Murphy, John J. Hightower, George Butler, William H. Glazener, William Munroe—5.

Helicon No. 201.—Mark L. Jackson, Stephen S. Low, William P. Jones—3.

Valley No. 203.—William H. Gibson, William T. Ray, Bryan H. McCullough, John Monk—4.

Moscow No. 206.—John W. McLemon—1.

Pettusville No. 207.—James J. Dawson, John W. Hill, William T. Hargrove, Charles C. Harrison, James R. Lock, William N. Lewis, Joab C. Malone, Thomas J. Scott Sen'r—8.

Marshall No. 209.—Charles Eubanks—1.

Putnam No. 212.—Allen P. McDaniel, James M. Towles, Wilson L. Word, Jefferson Osburn, Thomas Hornsby, Henry F. Owens, Alfred B. Handley—7.

Builders No. 215.—William A. Morris, John J. Calhoun, Thomas M. Riser, Robert W. Johns, Albert G. Sims, Joseph J. Ambrister, Charles H. Colclough, William H. Parrot, Frank S. Beckham, Willis W. Allen, James O. Mallory, William A. Conville—12.

Sam Dixon No. 218.—Joel Helms, George R. Tracey, Abram Roberts—3.

Lineville No. 219.—William Burrow, Thomas H. Mitchell—2.

Newton No. 224.—Moses Jones—1.

LOUISVILLE No. 225.—George W. Harrison, Edward M. Herron, Beacon B. McKenzie, Edward D. Hughes, Joseph Henderson—5.

DALLAS No. 228.—John W. McClintock, John M. Word, Daniel S. Smith, Samuel O. Striplin—4.

HARPERSVILLE No. 235.—Benjamin F. Glover, Henry E. Flory, Jonas Bradshaw—3.

FAIRMOUNT No. 238.—Alfred D. Caton—1.

BOWEN No. 241.—Charles B. Vetter, John H. Bedson, John Henderson—3.

COOSA No. 242.—Henry Blankenship, James B. Crook, Julius C. Edwards, James W. McCain, Thomas A. Wall—5.

RAMER No. 243.—Trusten B. Watters—1.

DAWSON No. 244.—Robert M. Josey, Joseph A. Tiner—2.

JOHN PAYNE No. 245.—Moses J. Coleman, James A. Durr, William W. Welch, Jacob H. Vail, Thomas D. Thomason, Samuel Doudle, Young Scott, William Shelly—8.

LAWRENCE No. 248.—Andrew J. Calhoun—1.

AMAND No. 250.—Enoch A. Knight—1.

NORTH PORT No. 252.—James H. Fair, Ezekiel A. Powell, Newton M. McGee, John C. Persinger, John D. Thomas—5.

GAYLESVILLE No. 256.—Ebenezer Cunningham, Charles W. Witherspoon—2.

ERVIN No. 257.—Abraham Myers, William J. Faris, Richard T. Latham, Richmond Townley, Elija Sides, Benjamin S. Walker, Archibald Keeton, John Keeton, William Atkins, John Grace, Abner Crawford, William F. Sides—12.

BELLVILLE No. 260.—Willis Thompson, Solomon S. Forbes, Pinkney Giddens—3.

TALLADEGA No. 261.—Abner P. McCleskey, William L. Wadsworth, Newton J. Skaggs—3.

MERIDIAN No. 265.—Jacob W. Battle, John Fisk, John G. Giles, William D. Humphrey, Eldridge B. Hawkins, William T. Johnson, Irvin Morrison, Benjamin R. Nance, Henry B. Rosser, William K. Spilce, John W. Wall—11.

WIND CREEK No. 267.—Joseph Knox, Wiley A. O. Daniel, Samuel Y. Johnston, Berry Stacks, John W. White—5.

PAINT ROCK No. 274.—Jerry W. Fletcher, Wesley J. Fletcher, William Swindle, Marion M. Sayler—4.

SPRINGVILLE No. 280.—Edward D. Wilson, Asberry B. Taylor, Reuben Little, William W. Thompson, Anderson G. Nunnelly, Colquit Mooney—6.

CHARLES BASKERVILLE No. 281.—Elkanah B. Newton, Benjamin F. Peters, Richard B. Dickinson—3.

GEORGIANA No. 285.—John T. B. Hudson—1.

FORT DEPOSIT No. 291.—Samuel Jordan, D. Rice Meriwether, William H. Cheatham, Tilman G. Hinson, Josiah Cates—5.

NORRIS No. 301.—John B. Colly, Andrew J. Adams, Lewis G. Adams—3.

ZION No. 304.—Thaddeus M. Walker, Reuben A. J. Dodson, Ira W. Moore, William B. Haney—4.

CENTRAL CITY No. 305.—George F. Beach, George W. Bush, Willis H. Green, Hugh S. Hudson, James C. Hightower, David Lotspucle, J——— J. Pearson, Edward V. Sharp, Addison Thompson, Augustus G. Thompson, John M. Tillman, John W. Voltz, Thomas A. Walthall, Samuel J. Howard, Thomas J. Woolf—15.

CLUTTSVILLE No. 319.—Hugh L. Toney, James A. Phillips—2.

HOLLY GROVE No. 323.—Russell W. Clay, Martin A. Clay, John M. Baker, Benjamin B. Toney, James H. Langston, Archibald Langham—6.

VIOLA No. 324.—Robert K. Bearden—1.

BLUE EYE No. 332.—Arthur Wood—1.

OLIVER No. 334.—Daniel L. Morgan—1.

JOHNSON No. 337.—Matthew H. Albritton, James T. Davidson, S. Dow Carnes—3.

GEORGIANA DAVIS No. 338.—John W. Bass, John S. Massey, Peter C. Smith, Calvin J. Bass, Joab B. Gore, Montezuma Posey, James Landrum, George E. Shehan—8.

ALBERT PIKE No. 339.—William R. Alexander, James S. Baker, George E. Geise, David B. Hall, John L. Malone, Edward Obriene, John Ross—7.

RAGAN No. 341.—Benjamin D. Williams—1.

PIKEVILLE No. 344.—Robert D. Bolin, John C. Hendon—2.

ECHO No. 345.—Nelson Stuckey, Hansford D. Price—2.

BIENVILLE No. 348.—William E. Fitzgerald—1.

WILSON WILLIAMS No. 351.—William S. Baldwin, Isaac F. Cary, John W. Hodo, Henry W. Sanders, Justin F. Buchanan, Cicero H. Buchanan, Thomas J. Jones, Plumter S. Sidall—8.

ROCK MILLS No. 353.—Daniel G. Crowder, William Harper, William C. Whitlock, William S. Mayfield, James W. McDonough, Wyatt Harper, Thomas T. Holley, J. Morgan Drummond—8.

VAN BUREN No. 355.—William A. Small, Lemuel B. Lovins, Eli S. Brock, Phillip Wolf, John T. Lumsden, Toliver F. Landers, Isham B. Roberts, Peter F. Stewart, James Chastain—9.

Rutledge No. 357.—Edward Y. McMorris—1.

Barbour No. 358.—John A. Perry—1.

Newtonville No. 360.—Thomas Ray—1.

Chester No. 363.—Edward Camp, William Pasley—2.

Cotaco No. 366.—James Putnam—1.

Russellville No. 371.—Thomas B. Fleming—1.

Lake City No. 377.—Pierce D. Bulger, Thomas D. Calor, John Adkisson, John Miller, Richard Gohagan—5.

Newburgh No. 388.—John S. Russell, John G. Whitlock—2.

North Border No. 391.—James M. Broyles, Luke G. Bullington, James R. Sandling, Alexander Ridgeway, James D. Bullington—5.

Hickory Flat No. 392.—John W. Bonner, Tuque B. Halliday, W. S. Osley—3.

Opelika No. 395.—Lee F. McCoy—1.

Falkville No. 396.—James N. Thompson—1.

Black Oak No. 397.—Phillip B. Gilbert, John B. Miller—2.

Hartselle No. 398.—Robert F. Orr, Thomas P. Woodall—2.

Haw Ridge No. 399.—Wilson M. Cooper—1.

Doric No. 406.—John D. Hall, John T. Wadsworth, Frank D. Alden, Pinkney P. Carroll—4.

Hillsboro No. 408.—James L. Roach, James H. Odom, James H. Foster—3.

Helena No. 410.—John T. Phillips, Michael J. Obarr, Burrus A. Warren, David McFarlan, Columbus C. Truss—5.

REINSTATED.

RISING VIRTUE No. 4.—Edward Warren—1.

MOULTON No. 6.—David L. Dinsmore, William D. Glenn, William H. Hill, John C. McClesky—4.

MACON No. 7.—Whitfield B. Summers—1.

ROYAL WHITE HART No. 10.—William W. Johnson, Augustus L. Oliver—2.

MONTGOMERY No. 11.—Samuel Dreyfus, Andrew J. Parvin, Malcolm D. Fisher, Leopold Waldman, John Egger—5.

FLORENCE No. 14.—James M. Crow, Washington M. Brandon, Thomas B. Cochran, Michael Melone Jr., Emanuel S. Gregory, Neander H. Rice—6.

DALE No. 25.—Richard C. Jones, Joseph H. Bonner, Edward H. Jones—3.

LA FAYETTE No. 26.—William N. Knight, William C. Burton—2.

SELMA FRATERNAL No. 27.—Benjamin F. Bagley, James H. Hill, Marshal A. Keith, Andrew J. Cox, Alexander S. Carrol, Daniel Gorman—6.

RISING SUN No. 29.—Henry L. Ballew, William B. McDonald, Louis Hobart, Richard L. Stephenson—4.

WASHINGTON No. 36.—Theodore C. Vesey—1.

WETUMPKA No. 39.—James H. Judkins, James M. Eslin—2.

MOBILE No. 40.—George W. Smith, William P. Hutchisson—2.

HIRAM No. 42.—Henry A. EAMS—1.

HARMONY No. 46.—Andrew J. Carver—1.

DEMOPOLIS No. 49.—Timothy G. Cornish—1.

AMITY No. 54.—Robert H. Williams, Patrick C. Schoppert—2.

TROY No. 56.—Dennis Rodgers, John L. Youngblood—2.

BENTON No. 59.—Ephraim T. D. McRea, Williams B. Haynes—2.

SOCIAL No. 63.—Andrew Edmonson, Joshua Caldwell, William B. Allen—3.

EUREKA No. 64.—Hill F. Oliver, Andrew M. Black, William A. Dukes—3.

LIBERTY No. 65.—George W. Stewart—1.

HAMPDEN SIDNEY No. 67.—Walter C. Long—1.

CENTRAL No. 70.—Alexander Curry—1.

TOHOPEKA No. 71.—Henry A. Walker—1.

WIDOW'S SON No. 72,—William J. Breithaupt—1.

SOLOMON No. 74.—James O. H. Perry, Ike H. Vincent—2.

AUBURN No. 76.—John E. Foster—1.

CROZIER No. 78.—Andrew J. Kerr, John W. Hanna, Terrell Andrews—3.

FREDONIA No. 79.—John L. Hurst, William R Hurst—2.

WILCOX No. 80.—Robert Steen, Andrew McBryde—2.

FRIENDSHIP No. 83.—Milton W. Perry, John A. Lee, Charles J. Stewart, James Standley—4.

EROPHOTIC No. 84.—John J. Murphree, Oliver H. P. Moorer—2.

PRATTVILLE No. 89.—Wyatt G. N. Golson, William T. Rice—2.

HENRY No. 91.—Henry M. Davis, John M. Hudspeth—2.

DANVILLE No. 95.—William Barnes, Wesley Barnes, Wiley Wilhite Elijah Stever, Greene B. Wallace—5.

TUCKABATCHEE No. 96.—Arthur L. Foreman, William W. Padgett, Benjamin F. Piper—3.

LOZAHATCHEE No. 97.—John F. Brice—1.

SALEM No. 99.—Ignatius A. Few—1.

HARTWELL No. 101.—Miller Hawkins—1.

GOOD SAMARITAN No. 104.—Ezekiel M. Wyatt, Samuel C. Dailey—2.

OAK BOWERY No. 108.—Edmond H. Mathews—1.

CAMP HILL No. 120.—Harry J. Bryant, William J. Slaughter, Marion L. D. Pitman—3.

LOACHAPOKA No. 133.—Thomas S. Phillips, James Wooten, Thomas J. Dismuke, Robert D. Nunn, Thomas B. Peddy—5.

COLUMBIA No. 135.—Thomas Robinson, James H. Hooten—2.

UNITY No. 136.—Robert H. G. Gaines, Allen McIntosh, Robert J. Doak, James H. Miller, James D. Clark, John A. Bishop, John D. Lindsey, William Vaughn—8.

BETHEL No. 141.—Archibald McEachern—1.

BALDWIN No. 142.—Joseph P. McGill, Virgil E. Crawford—2.

FRATERNITY No. 145.—Luther M. Hudson—1.

BLADON SPRINGS No. 151.—Bladon N. Corley—1.

SOMERVILLE No. 157.—Eli M. Sams, James H. Strain, William C. Lammonds, Thomas Stuart, James Wilcoxson, Joseph D. Graham, Joseph Spain, James T. Tapscott, John T. Cooper, John W. Maxwell, John W. Smith, Washington W. Peck, Madison B. Robinson, James McGlathery—14.

MAYSVILLE No. 158.—John B. Ferguson—1.

PENICK No. 161.—Burrell H. Singleton, Hilliard J. Thrash—2.

FAYETTEVILLE AUTHENTIC No. 163.—Lloyd Hasty—1.

ANDREW JACKSON No. 173.—William H. Spiers, William P. Bell, George W. Keating, Horace D. Rast—4.

BRUNDIDGE No. 184.—Charles W. Hilliard, George Y. Malone, Ezekiel Hollis, John H. Banks, William Barr—5.

CATAWLA No. 186.—Samuel C. Vaughn, Noah A. Hood—2.

CLINTONVILLE No. 188.—Christopher C. Stringfellow—1.

CHATTAHOOCHEE No. 192.—Oliver R. Taylor—1.

CALEDONIA No. 198.—Columbus C. Barber—1.

HELICON No. 201.—Franklin Bedsole, Ransom Duke, Thomas C. Tucker, Isaac D. Collier—4.

Moscow No. 206.—Titus L. Crew, Mack W. Loyd, John B. Pitchford—3.

ALEXANDRIA No. 208.—William Broughton, Elisha V. Weaver, John U. Wilbanks, Mack D. Broughton—4.

YORK 211.—Wiliiam N. Gibson, John A. Lollar, Stephen J. Chilton, Joseph M. Corry, James Hanley, Thomas Key, Walter G. Gravlee, John B. Sumner, Jefferson L. Phillips, Joseph T. Sherer, John A. Cottrell, John D. Gravlee, Jefferson Phillips, Samuel H. Karrh, Wilson P. McCarty, John Key, John M. Wallace, John W. Blanton, William Cobb—19.

PUTNAM No. 212.—Elijah J. Evans, William J. Kirk, James Killgore, Barton Weaver, William H. Wood, Simeon J. Kidd, Harman R. Gay, William H. Culpeper, Robert B. F. Robinson—9.

SAM DIXON No. 218.—Tilman H. Knight, Thomas B. Miller—2

NEWTON No. 224.—John L. Bailey, Lewis Moseley, Aaron T. Davis—3.

LOUISVILLE No. 225.—Seaborn J. Cumming, James J. Bradley—2.

SEPULGA No. 233.—James L. McLain—1.

HARPERSVILLE No. 235.—Ira C. Dickerson, John G. Mundin—2.

TALLASSEE No. 237.—Lorenzo D. Grant—1.

BOWEN No. 241.—Henry S. Ihnan—1.

COOSA No. 242.—John S. Edwards, James F. Humphries—2.

DAWSON No. 244.—Joseph M. Y. Sellers, James Nichols, Daniel Norsworthy, William P. Bass, Cincinnatus D. Owens—5.

HARRISON No. 246.—Nathan S. Dukes, Aaron S. Hand—2.

LAWRENCE No. 248.—John A. Scott, George P. Pitman—2.

NORTH PORT No. 252.—Zachary T. Christian, William L. Christian, Stephen R. Dardin, William Hardin—4.

GAYLESVILLE No. 256.—William F. Henderson, Charles M. Bell, William N. Barnard—3.

RANDOLPH No. 258.—Samuel Sellers, Michael Pickett—2.

HIGHLAND No. 262.—Stephen W. Lee, Ezekiel W. Ataway, Zephaniah N. H. Acton, Rufus H. Walker, James G. Fields, Sanders Jones, Needham Acton, John A. Griffin, Edward F. Lee—9.

MOUNT PLEASANT No. 266.—David H. Bayles—1.

WIND CREEK No. 267.—Bryant Porch, Francis M. Tippett—2.

BUTLER SPRINGS No. 270.—Stephen T. Glenn—1.

CLIFTON No. 272.—Elijah Yow—1.

NORTHERN No. 278.—Allison Worley—1.

DAVISTON No. 283.—Snowdon Thompson, Thomas J. Milan—2.

CLINTON No. 287.—George H. Thomas, John M. Trawick—2.

ZION No. 304.—Calvin Bishop—1.

HOLLY GROVE No. 323.—Jasper E. McCollum—1.

VIOLA No. 324.—William T. Cornelius—1.

BLUE EYE No. 332.—Albert S. Acker—1.

OLIVER No. 334.—J. Leonard Goodman, Alexander Kilpatrick, Charles H. Gilmore, William D. Johnson, Greene E. Jones, B. Frank Reiser—6.

JOHNSON No. 337.—Littleton L. Albritton—1.

ALBERT PIKE No. 339.—William H. Jones, James D. Sumner, Lemuel D. Thomas—3.

ECHO No. 345.—Hilary J. Galloway—1.

BIENVILLE No. 348.—Henry L. Harris—1.

VAN BUREN No. 355.—Andrew W. Dilbeck—1.

RUTLEDGE No. 357.—James M. Perkins, Pinkney A. Tatum.

NEWTONVILLE No. 360.—Gray Strickland, William Johnson, William Hallman, David E. Woods.—4.

CHESTER No. 363.—James Vanderford, Monroe D. Parker, James M. Cates—3,

PLEASANT SITE No. 364.—David N. Patterson—1.

COTACO No. 366.—Benjamin B. Reinhart—1.

CROSS PLAINS No. 368.—Joshua E. Brook—1.

SAUTA CREEK No. 376.—Stephen Culbert, Samuel Johnson—2.

WEOGUFKA No. 378.—Robert Taylor, Jacob Nelson, Henry J. Taylor—3.

BIRMINGHAM FRATERNAL No. 384.—Charles M. Sturgis, William A. Blythe, Goldsmith W. Hewitt—3.

TRINITY No. 386.—Joseph Robinson, John H. Kitchens—2.

NEWBURGH No. 388.—Charles P. Banks, Isaac L. Graves, Francis M. Little, William P. Dickerson—4.

FALKVILLE No. 396.—George W. Mayhall, Volley E. Sims—2.

SUSPENDED FOR UNMASONIC CONDUCT.

Henry Backus	Central	No.	70
William G. W. Albritton	Widow's Son	"	72
James Gillespie	Henry	"	91
Abner G. Hammond	Elba	"	170
Marion M. Saylor	Paint Rock	"	274
James W. Darby	Georgiana	"	285
Sylvanus H. C. Johnson	Viola	"	324
William J. Ward	Echo	"	345
James Cravy	Lake City	"	377
John W. Creal, James M. Ware	Birmingham Fraternal	"	384

EXPELLED.

James P. Burk	Fayetteville Authentic	No.	163
Alexander McDowell	Brundidge	"	184
Thomas J. Barbb	Clintonville	"	188
William H. Notts	Helicon	"	201
Benjamin F. Treadaway	Western Star.	"	222
James T. Richardson	Newton	"	224
Adelbert P. Robson	Louisville	"	225
E. James Mancill	Fairmount	"	238
Isaac L. Berry, F. C.	Coosa	"	242
William J. Alvis	Ervin	"	257
Carter M. Arnold	Norris	"	301
Francis M. Mackey	Newtonville	"	360
Nathan H. Thornton	Birmingham Fraternal	"	384
Hamilton Mannus	Oak Level	"	415

LODGES DELINQUENT IN 1879.

FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

Helion	No.	1	Randolph	No.	258
Alabama	"	3	Walnut Grove	"	264
Warren	"	47	Pea River	"	271
Jefferson	"	51	Larkinsville	"	277
Friendship	"	83	Charles Baskerville	"	281
New Berne	"	102	Richmond	"	282
Forest Hill	"	110	Cluttsville	"	319
Sylvan	"	111	Warrenton	"	320
Perryville	"	117	Forkland	"	330
Havana	"	123	Clear Creek	"	340
Bolivar	"	127	Sipsey	"	350
Bradford	"	138	Heaton	"	354
Fraternity	"	145	Barbour	"	358
Missouri	"	146	Scottsboro	"	359
Rodgersville	"	147	Houston	"	365
Chambers	"	149	Santa Creek	"	376
Etam	"	150	Robert E. Lee	"	379
Maysville	"	158	Ohatchee	"	380
Ezel	"	175	Waterloo	"	382
Landmark	"	187	Ben Pope	"	383
Delta	"	189	Vernon	"	389
Opelika	"	195	Weathers	"	390
Hillabee	"	197	North Border	"	391
Tensaw	"	221	Falkville	"	396
Sandy Ridge	"	223	Hanceville	"	400
Bexar	"	230	High Shoals	"	413
Duck Spring	"	231	Oak Level	"	415
Cropwell	"	247	Hilton	"	419
Quitman	"	254			

FOR NON-REPRESENTATION.

Helion	No.	1	Bexar	No.	230
Alabama	"	3	Duck Spring	"	231
Rising Virtue	"	4	Harpersville	"	235
Gilead	"	9	Bowen	"	241
Florence	"	14	Cropwell	"	247
LaFayette	"	26	North Port	"	252

Harmony	No. 46	Quitman	No. 254
Warren	" 47	Ervin	" 257
Jefferson	" 51	Randolph	" 258
New Market	" 52	Walnut Grove	" 264
Tohopeka	" 71	Pea River	" 271
Cokerville	" 75	Larkinsville	" 277
Fredonia	" 79	Northern	" 278
Friendship	" 83	Charles Baskerville	" 281
Pfister	" 90	Richmond	" 282
Henry	" 91	Zion	" 304
New Berne	" 102	Cluttsville	" 319
Shiloh	" 105	Warrenton	" 320
Hermon	" 106	Pleasant Hill	" 321
Forest Hill	" 110	Holly Grove	" 323
Sylvan	" 111	Viola	" 324
Perryville	" 117	Madison Station	" 329
Havana	" 123	Forkland	" 330
Mortimer Reeder	" 126	Georgiana Davis	" 338
Bolivar	" 127	Clear Creek	" 340
Yorkville	" 131	Pikeville	" 344
Columbia	" 135	Echo	" 345
Bradford	" 138	Sipsey	" 350
Bethel	" 141	Heaton	" 354
Baldwin	" 142	Barbour	" 358
Burleson	" 143	Scottsboro	" 359
Fraternity	" 145	Houston	" 365
Missouri	" 146	Athelstan	" 369
Rodgersville	" 147	Bell's Landing	" 373
Chambers	" 149	Gainesville	" 375
Etam	" 150	Santa Creek	" 376
Monroeville	" 153	Robert E. Lee	" 379
Nixburgh	" 154	Ohatchee	" 380
Maysville	" 158	Waterloo	" 382
Fellowship	" 172	Ben Pope	" 383
Ezel	" 175	Newburgh	" 388
Desotoville	" 178	Vernon	" 389
Brundidge	" 184	Weathers	" 390
Landmark	" 187	North Border	" 391
Delta	" 189	Falkville	" 396
Brush Creek	" 191	Hartselle	" 398
Chattahoochee	" 192	Haw Ridge	" 399
Opelika	" 195	Hanceville	" 400
Hillabee	" 197	Hoboken	" 404
Sylacauga	" 200	High Shoals	" 413
Marshall	" 209	Oak Level	" 415
Builders	" 215	George Smith	" 417
Tensaw	" 221	Hilton	" 419
Sandy Ridge	" 223		

LODGES REINSTATED.

Shiloh	No. 105	Jonesboro	No. 315
Spring Hill	" 217	Black Oak	" 397
John Payne	" 245	Pondtown	" 409

CHARTERS FORFEITED IN 1879.

Bellefonte	No. 62	Summit	No. 343
Coffeeville	" 122	Lodor	" 374
Mount Eagle	" 185	Munford	" 385
Ebenezer	" 210	Blue Spring	" 387
Bullock	" 276	Pine Lake	" 418

FORFEITED, REVOKED, AND CONSOLIDATED.

Numbers 2, 5, 12, 13, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 38, 45, 48, 58, 60, 66, 73, 77, 82, 85, 86, 87, 92, 94, 100, 109, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 118, 121, 122, 128, 130, 132, 137, 139, 156, 159, 160, 162, 164, 165, 167, 174, 177, 179, 182, 183, 185, 194, 196, 202, 205, 210, 214, 216, 220, 229, 232, 234, 236, 239, 240, 253, 255, 259, 263, 268, 269, 273, 276, 279, 284, 288, 289, 308, 316, 317, 318, 322, 325, 326, 327, 328, 333, 336, 342, 343, 347, 352, 356, 362, 370, 372, 374, 385, 387, 393, 401, 418—Total number 109.

RECAPITULATION.

Lodges that were represented		189
Members reported at this Grand Communication	7,523	
Estimate of members not reported	1,154	8,677
Dues received at this Grand Communication		$3,616.00
Lodges that made Returns		257
Lodges that made no Returns		41
Lodges that paid their Dues		239
Lodges that have not paid their Dues		58

Work of the Year 1879.

Number Initiated	347
Number Passed	345
Number Raised	315
Number Affiliated	283
Number Rejected	55
Number Dimitted	307
Number that Died	142
Suspended for Unmasonic Conduct	11
Number Expelled	14
Suspended for Non-payment of Dues	463
Number Reinstated	284

Condition of the Lodges.

Lodges square upon the Books	191
Lodges Delinquent for non-representation	107
Charters forfeited, revoked, and consolidated	109
Army Numbers	19
Whole number at the end of the year	426

CALENDAR OF FULL MOONS,

SHOWING THE

Day of the Week and Month on which every Full Moon Falls, from January, 1870, to December, 1883, inclusive.

Compiled from DeMorgan, by Brother W. B. Langridge, of Iowa.

Year	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
1870	Mo 17	Tu 15	Th 17	Fri 15	Sat 14	Mo 13	Tu 12	Th 11	Fri 9	Su 9	Mo 7	Th 7
1871	Fri 6	Su 5	Mo 6	We 5	Th 4	Sat 3	Su 2 Mo 31	We 30	Th 28	Sat 28	Su 26	Tu 26
1872	Th 24	Sat 23	Su 24	Tu 23	We 22	Fri 21	Sat 20	Su 18	Tu 16	We 16	Tu 15	Su 14
1873	Mo 13	Tu 11	Fri 14	Sat 12	Mo 12	Tu 10	We 9	Fri 8	Sat 6	Su 5	Tu 4	We 3
1874	Fri 2	Su 1	Tu 3	We 1	Fri 1 Su 31	Mo 29	Tu 28	Th 27	Fri 25	Su 25	Mo 23	Tu 22
1875	Th 21	Sat 20	Su 21	Tu 20	Th 20	Fri 18	Su 18	Mo 16	We 15	Th 14	Sat 13	Su 12
1876	Tu 10	We 8	Th 9	Sat 8	Mo 8	Tu 6	Th 6	Fri 4	Sat 3	Tu 3	We 1	Fri 1 Sa 30
1877	Mo 29	Tu 27	Th 29	Fri 27	Su 27	Mo 25	We 25	Th 23	Sat 22	Mo 22	Tu 20	Th 20
1878	Fri 18	Su 17	Mo 18	We 17	Th 16	Fri 14	Su 14	Mo 12	Th 12	Fri 11	Sat 9	Mo 9
1879	We 8	Th 6	Sat 8	Su 6	Mo 5	We 4	Th 3	Sat 2 Su 31	Tu 30	We 29	Fri 28	Sat 28
1880	Tu 26	We 24	Th 25	Sat 24	Mo 24	Tu 22	We 21	Fri 20	Sat 18	Su 17	Tu 16	Th 16
1881	Sat 15	Mo 14	Tu 15	Th 14	Fri 13	Su 12	Mo 11	Tu 9	Th 8	Fri 7	Su 6	Mo 5
1882	We 4	Fri 3	Su 5	Mo 3	We 3	Th 1	Su 1 30	Mo 28	Tu 26	Th 26	Sat 25	Su 24
1883	Tu 23	Th 22	Fri 23	Su 22	Th 22	We 20	Fri 20	Sat 18	Su 16	Tu 16	We 14	Fri 14

REGISTER OF LODGES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA.

No	NAME.	LOCATION.	COUNTY.	POST OFFICE.	MASTER.	SECRETARY.	COMMUNICAT'N
4	Rising Virtue	Tuscaloosa	Tuscaloosa	Tuscaloosa	Newton N. Clements	Joseph H. Tyler	2 & 4 Wed
6	Moulton	Moulton	Lawrence	Moulton	Noble G. Deleshaw	Edward C. McDonald	4 Saturday
7	Macon	Grove Hill	Clarke	Grove Hill	Jesse P. Chapman	Richard J. Woodward	4 Saturday
8	Farrar	Elyton	Jefferson	Elyton	Sam Thompson	Robert A. Terroll	1 Saturday
10	Royal White Hart	Clayton	Barbour	Clayton	John A. Foster	Edgar R. Quillin	2 & 4 Sat
11	Montgomery	Montgomery	Montgomery	Montgomery	William H. Dingley	Calvin W. Sayre	1 & 3 Monday
14	Florence	Florence	Lauderdele	Florence	Alexander C. Chisolm	James R. Price	1 Monday
16	Athens	Athens	Limestone	Athens	Benjamin Lee Allen	Samuel Tanner	1 Monday
22	Saint Albans	Linden	Marengo	Linden	William H. Grayson, S W	Thomas J. Adams	1 Saturday
24	George Washington	Clinton	Greene	Clinton	Oscar H. McMillian	Theodore S. McMillian	2 Saturday
25	Dale	Camden	Wilcox	Camden	James T. Beck	Francis P. M. Gilbert	Fri bf fm
26	La Fayette	Greensboro	Hale	Greensboro	Richard Inge	Alexander H. Williams	3 Tuesday
27	Selma Fraternal	Selma	Dallas	Selma	William W. McCollum	Adolph Jacobson	1 & 3 Mon
28	Marengo	Dayton	Marengo	Dayton	Foster B. Terrell	Junius K. Conner	3 Friday
29	Rising Sun	Decatur	Morgan	Decatur	John W. Jones	Miles C Wade	1 Tuesday
31	Autauga	Autaugaville	Autauga	Autaugaville	Thomas W. Hall	Albert W. McNeel	Last Saturday
36	Washington	Tuscumbia	Colbert	Tuscumbia	Thomas T. Rowland	James H. Simpson	2 Saturday
37	Courtland	Courtland	Lawrence	Courtland	Andrew J. Morris	William S. Puryear	Tuesday bfm
39	Wetumpka	Wetumpka	Elmore	Wetumpka	Charles A. Sedberry	William S. Penick	Saturday bfm
40	Mobile	Mobile	Mobile	Mobile	William S. Foster	Frederick Graves	Every Monday
41	Livingston	Livingston	Sumter	Livingston	John Gideon Harris	Isaiah C. Brown	4 Friday
42	Hiram	Jacksonville	Calhoun	Jacksonville	William M. Hames	William H. Dean	1 Monday
43	Leighton	Leighton	Lawrence	Leighton	Joseph M. Kumpe	William McCormack	Wed bf 1 Sat
44	Gaston	Warsaw	Sumter	Warsaw	John B. Lanford	Clarence Grove	1 Wednesday
46	Harmony	Eufaula	Barbour	Eufaula	James Milton	John C Thomas	2 & 4 Saturday
47	Warren	Kingston	Autauga	Kingston	John J. L. Stewart	Derril F. Duramus	3 Saturday
49	Demopolis	Demopolis	Marengo	Demopolis	John H. McKinley	John B. Grayson	1 & 3 Thurs
50	Union	Uniontown	Perry	Uniontown	John W Bush	John Henry White	2 Thursday
52	New Market	New Market	Madison	New Market	George D. Norris	Robert J. Johnson	3 Saturday
53	Greening	Evergreen	Conecuh	Evergreen	George R. Farnham	Young M. Rabb	Saturday bfm
54	Amity	Eutaw	Greene	Eutaw	John R. Taylor	William T. Callahan	1 Monday
55	Mount Moriah	Pickensville	Pickens	Pickensville	John H. Stinson	Henry C. Moorhead	2 Saturday
56	Troy	Troy	Pike	Troy	Josiah Jernigan	Joel D. Murphree	1 & 3 Sat
57	Tuskegee	Tuskegee	Macon	Tuskegee	James A. Bilbro	Albert S. Harper	1 & 3 Monday
59	Benton	Benton	Lowndes	Benton	John Calhoun Grumbles	Bernhard Wolff	1 Sat & Sat bfm
61	Tompkinsville	Tompkinsville	Choctaw	Tompkinsville	William R. Horn	Joseph C. Cahoon	1 Saturday
62	Saint Johns	Union Springs	Bullock	Union Springs	Isaiah A. Wilson	William D. Jelks	1 & 3 Friday
63	Social	Enon	Bullock	Enon	Newton P. Banks	John F. Harrison	1 Saturday
64	Eureka	Greenville	Butler	Greenville	Albert H. Metcalf	Adam B. Dulin Jr	1 & 3 Friday

65	Liberty	Liberty Hill	Dallas	Martin's Station	Joseph A. Groves	Samuel W. Pegues	4 Friday
67	Hampden Sidney	Robinson Spring	Elmore	Prattville	Edwin H. Robinson	Samuel H. Gibbons	3 Saturday
68	Holsey	Glennville	Russell	Glennville	Americus C. Mitchell	William R Logan	4 Saturday
69	Howard	Mobile	Mobile	Mobile	Oliver S. Beers	Philip C. Candidus	1 and 3 Tues
70	Central	Montevallo	Shelby	Montevallo	Thomas B. McCluskey	George W. Rogan	Saturday bfm
71	Tohopeka	Dadeville	Tallapoosa	Dadeville	Allen D. Sturdivant	Berthold Sternberg	3 Saturday
72	Widow's Sun	Snow Hill	Wilcox	Snow Hill	George A Barge	Elkanah Burson	Saturday bfm
74	Solomon	La Fayette	Chambers	La Fayette	James M. Driver	James E Scarborough	1 and 3 Sat
75	Cokerville	Cokerville	Monroe	Pine Apple	William D. Garrett	William R. Chapman	Sat bf 1 Sun
76	Auburn	Auburn	Lee	Auburn	George P. Harrison Jr	Patrick H. Swanson	1 and 3 Friday
78	Crozier	White Plains,	Calhoun	White Plains	Andrew M. Whiteside	James S. Slaughter	Sat bf 3 Sun
79	Fredonia	Fredonia	Chambers	Fredonia	William J. Grady	George A. Hilt	Friday bfm
80	Wilcox	Allenton	Wilcox	Allenton	Elbert D. Harris	Leon Thalheimer	Friday bfm
81	Saint Stephens	Saint Stephens	Washington	Saint Stephens	Elijah H. Gordy	John A. Richardson Jr	2 Saturday
83	Friendship	Centreville	Bibb	Centreville	James W. Crawford	Edward C. Cleveland	1 Saturday
84	Erophotic	Bragg's	Lowndes	Bragg's	Eber D. Lavender	William H. McFerrin	Saturday bfm
88	Meridian Sun	Pleasant Hill	Dallas	Pleasant Hill	Kenneth McKinnon	Aaron Maas	Friday bfm
89	Prattville	Prattville	Autauga	Prattville	John Burns	James H. Booth	Monday bfm
90	Pfister	McKinley	Marengo	McKinley	Francis M. Dansby	James G. Kelly	1 Wednesday
91	Henry	Abbeville	Henry	Abbeville,	Edward Blacklidge	James W. Stokes	2 and 4 Sat
93	Sawyer	Wedowee	Randolph	Wedowee	John Reaves	John T. Owens	2 Saturday
95	Danville	Danville	Morgan	Danville	Jesse J. Woodall	Stokeley R. Tidwell	4 Saturday
96	Tuckabatchee	Crawford	Russell	Crawford	David D. Kent	Robert P. Baldwin	2 and 4 Sat
97	Lozahatchee	Goshen	Cherokee	Ladiga, Cal	James M Amberson	Hampton W. Glover	Sat bf 3 Sab
98	Fulton	Orrville	Dallas	Orrville	Benjamin F. Ellis	Lawrence L. Gaddy	3 Friday
99	Salem	Salem	Lee	Salem	William M. Adams	William A. Dunn	2 and 4 Sat
101	Hartwell	Oxford	Calhoun	Oxford	Stephen C. Miller	Thomas H. Barry	4 Saturday
103	Benson	Maplesville	Chilton	Maplesville	Grandison Smith	Seaborn Jones	1 Saturday
104	Good Samaritan	Dudleyville	Tallapoosa	Dudleyville	Leroy L. TeBow	William C. Jenkins	Sat bf 1 Sun
105	Shiloh	Hampden	Marengo	Hampden	Postel Threadgill	Joseph E. Smyly	3 Saturday
106	Hermon	Sumterville	Sumter	Sumterville	George M. Wrenn	William H. Brown	Sat bfm
107	Choctaw	Pushmataha	Choctaw	Pushmataha	James A. Gilder	Joseph M Gilder	4 Saturday
108	Oak Bowery	Oak Bowery	Chambers	Gold Hill, Lee	Richard P. Lockhart	John T. Hester	2 and 4 Sat
110	Forest Hill	Pleasant Grove	Pickens	Pleasant Grove	Joseph P. Barnett	Louis A. Lavender	2 Saturday
119	Notasulga	Notasulga	Macon	Notasulga	Benjamin F. Johnson	William S. Ford	2 and 4 Sat
120	Camp Hill	Camp Hill	Tallapoosa	Camp Hill	Walter R. Dawson	Rolley R. Spinks	2 Saturday
123	Havana	Havana	Hale	Havana	George H Sheldon	William S. Bishop	1 Wednesday
124	Felix	Midway	Bullock	Midway	Charles P. S Daniel	Jacob Friedman	2 and 4 Tues
125	Herndon	Union	Greene	Union	Edward H. Lamb	James T. Smith	4 Saturday
126	Mortimer Reeder	Rock Springs	Lee	Loachapoka	Mortimer Reeder	Samuel A. Burns	2 and 4 Sat
127	Boliver	Stevenson	Jackson	Stevenson	T. Boyd Foster	Michael Graham	1 and 3 Fri
129	Geneva	Geneva	Geneva	Geneva	William D. Campbell	Thomas H. Yarbrough	2 Saturday
131	Yorkville	Yorkville	Pickens	Yorkville	Samuel C. Nabers	Washington Pridmore	1 Saturday
133	Loachapoka	Loachapoka	Lee	Loachapoka	Wiley W. Bloodworth	John W. Peddy	2 and 4 Tues

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134	Wiley	Farriorville	Bullock	Linwood, *Pike*	Abijah Haley	John A. Stewart	1 & 3 Sat
135	Columbia	Columbia	Henry	Columbia	Abraham W. Elliott	Mathew W. Kelly	2 & 4 Sat
136	Unity	Lower Peach Tree	Wilcox	Lower Peach Tree	George E. Crawford	James W. Gibson	4 Saturday
140	Shelby	Columbiana	Shelby	Columbiana	Amos M. Elliott	Levi Armstrong	Last Saturday
141	Bethel	Arbacoochee	Cleburne	Arbacoochee	John J. Teague	Elijah A. Teague	1 Thursday
142	Baldwin	Stockton	Baldwin	Stockton	George W. Robinson	James M. Vaughn	2 Saturday
143	Burleson	Burleson	Franklin	Burleson	William H. Thorn	James M. Thorn	1 Saturday
144	Daleville	Daleville	Dale	Daleville	AlexanderGillis McLeod	Daniel R. Thomas	1 Saturday
145	Fraternity	Blountsville	Blount	Blountsville	Stephen C. Allgood	Camillus Turner	1 & 3 Sat
148	Coldwater	Vance's Station	Tuscaloosa	Vance's Station	Michael Y. Hayes	William Vance	Sat bf 3 Sun
151	Bladon Springs	Bladon Springs	Choctaw	Bladon Springs	George H. McKee	George W. Knight	3 Saturday
152	Mount Jefferson	Shady Grove	Lee	Opelika	Edward S. Collier	Wiley W. Jones	3 Saturday
153	Monroeville	Monroeville	Monroe	Monroeville	John De Loach	Franklin M. Jones	Sat bf 3 Sun
154	Nixburgh	Nixburgh	Coosa	Nixburgh	William L. Johnson	Lancaster J Funderburk	Sat bf 3 Sun
155	Eastaboga	Eastaboga	Talladega	Eastaboga	John T. Donaldson	Alonzo Montgomery	3 Saturday
157	Somerville	Somerville	Morgan	Somerville	Henry M. Mason	Monroe T. Swift	Sat bfm
158	Maysville	Maysville	Madison	Maysville	Constantine B. Saunders	Charles E. Jordan	Fri bfm
161	Penick	Pleasant Grove	Elmore	Eclectic	William C. Cousins	William C. Still	Sat bfm
163	Fa't'v'e Authentic	Fayetteville	Talladega	Fayetteville	Kinion Thomas	Michael S. Bennett	2 Saturday
166	Sumter	Gaston	Sumter	Gaston	Charles F. Threadgill	John N. Gilmore	4 Saturday
168	Mount Hope	Mount Hope	Lawrence	Mount Hope	Benjamin F. McGaughy	George W. Jackson	Sat bf 2 Sun
169	Buena Vista	Sardis	Bullock	Union Springs	William A. Martin	John B. Martin	3 Saturday
170	Elba	Elba	Coffee	Elba	Algus Vaughan	Morgan G. Stoudenmier	1 Saturday
171	Clopton	Barnes ⋈ Roads	Dale	Barnes ⋈ Road	John H. Weed	William Patterson	2 & 4 Sat
172	Fellowship	Fellowship	Pickens	Reform	Elias A. Brown	Gideon R. Langdon	4 Saturday
173	Andrew Jackson	Montgomery	Montgomery	Montgomery	John Gindrat Winter	Charles A. Allen	1 & 3 Tues
176	Davie	Indian Creek	Bullock	Indian Creek	Charles Crawley	Reuben Cope	4 Saturday
178	Desotoville	Desotoville	Choctaw	Desotoville	Simeon Walton	John C. Christopher	3 Saturday
180	Mount Hilliard	Mount Hilliard	Bullock	Mount Hilliard	George H. Harris	Lloyd J. Williams	2 & 4 Sat
181	Aberfoil	Aberfoil	Bullock	Aberfoil	William H. Eagarton	Roderick Bethune	1 Saturday
184	Brundidge	Brundidge	Pike	Brundidge	Colin McSwean	William C. Anderson	1 & 3 Sat
186	Catawla	Ashville	Saint Clair	Ashville	Davis E. Cason	John W. Inzer	1 Saturday
188	Clintonville	Clintonville	Coffee	Clintonville	Alfred McGee	Noah O. Hutchison	3 Saturday
190	Tombigbee	Jefferson	Marengo	Jefferson	John W. Jones	Charles E. Hudson	3 Saturday
191	Brush Creek	Brush Creek	Perry	Brush Creek	George M. Spencer	William T. Boyd	Sat bfm
192	Chattahoochee	Berlin	Chambers	Osanippa	Felix W. Shank	Timothy Collins	2 Saturday
193	Hopewell	Hopewell	Bullock	Matthews'Station	George Stowers	Phillip F. Mitchell	1 & 3 Sat
198	Caledonia	Gordon	Henry	Gordon	Clarence L. McCartha	S. Edward Bowdon	2 & 4 Sat

199	Kialighee	Kialighee	Elmore	Channahatchee	Nathan Landers	William F. Moon	3 Saturday
200	Sylacauga	Sylacauga	Talladega	Sylacauga	Lewis H. Crumpler	James M. Lanning	3 Saturday
201	Helicon	Helicon	Crenshaw	Helicon	William H. Posey	William J. Warner	2 Saturday
203	Valley	Wacoochee Valley	Lee	Wacoochee	Oswell Albright	William Craps	1 & 3 Sat
204	Manning Spring	Manning Spring	Montgomery	Pike Road	Andrew J. Simmons	Charles E. McDade	2 & 4 Sat
206	Moscow	Moscow	Lamar	Moscow	Robert J, Redden	Daniel W. Hollis	Sat bfm
207	Pettusville	Elkmont	Limestone	Elkmont	William W. Phillips	James O. Dawson	2 Friday
208	Alexandria	Alexandria	Calhoun	Alexandria	William P. Cooper	Emmett F. Crook	Sat bf 4 Sun
209	Marshall	Guntersville	Marshall	Guntersville	Solomon Palmer	Thomas B. Lusk	Sat bfm
211	York	Jasper	Walker	Jasper	Franklin A. Gamble	John C. Thompson	1 Friday
212	Putnam	Louina	Randolph	Louina	Joseph H. Mooty	Francis M. Handley	1 & 3 Sat
213	Euclid	Fort Browder	Barbour	Fort Browder	William H. Pruitt	Simon R. Smith	1 & 3 Sat
215	Builders	Planter's Instit'te	Talladega	Alpine	Clayborn H. Gorman	Richard E. Cook	1 Saturday
217	Spring Hill	Old Spring Hill	Marengo	Old Spring Hill	William W. Harder	James L. Daughdrill	4 Saturday
218	Sam Dixon	Centre	Cherokee	Centre	Reuben T. Ewing	David C. Daniel	1 Saturday
219	Lineville	Lineville	Clay	Lineville	Alexander Beck	Robert Griffin	3 Saturday
222	Western Star	Cuba Station	Sumter	Cuba Station	Eugene M. Shaw	Henry H. Andrews	1 Saturday
224	Newton	Newton	Dale	Newton	Richard A. Ramsey	John R. Kelly	1 & 3 Sat
225	Louisville	Louisville	Barbour	Louisville	Christopher C. Lee	John W. Efard	1 & 3 Sat
226	Santa Fe	Jackson	Clarke	Jackson	Neal M. Calhoun	Thomas J. Prim	3 Saturday
227	James Penn	Clopton	Dale	Clopton	William H. Stuckey	Augustus S. Clarke	2 & 4 Sat
228	Dallas	Chulafinnee	Cleburne	Chulafinnee	Kinchen Morris	James T. Rusk	3 Saturday
233	Sepulga	Starlington	Butler	Georgiana	Daniel D. Bennett	Marion A. Ray	3 Saturday
235	Harpersville	Harpersville	Shelby	Harpersville	John W. Pitts	William R. Singleton	4 Saturday
237	Tallassee	East Tallassee	Tallapoosa	Tallassee	Robert T. Ashurst	Solomon T. Strickland	4 Saturday
238	Fairmount	Fairmount Ch	Covington	Red Level	Zebulon Terry	Adam L. Pierce	2 Saturday
241	Bowen	Whistler	Mobile	Whistler	John Eggler	Thomas Halliwell	1 & 3 Thurs
242	Coosa	Buyckville	Elmore	Sykes' Mill	Isaac C. Hall	W. K. Whetstone	2 Saturday
243	Ramer	Ramer	Montgomery	Ramer	Pleasant W. Spear	John T. Sentell	1 & 3 Sat
244	Dawson	Oakey Streak	Butler	Oakey Streak	Joseph S. Sanders	John T. Watson	Sat bf 1& 3 Sun
245	John Payne	Millport	Lamar	Luxapulila	William McCullough	John N. Propst	Sat bf 3 Sun
246	Harrison	Henderson	Pike	Henderson	John A. Law	Henry M. Bradley,	4 Saturday
248	Lawrence	Lawrenceville	Henry	Lawrenceville	Council Batchelor	Newell M. Thornton	2 Saturday
249	Toluca	Toluca	Butler	Greenville	David C. Roach	David L. Milton	Sat bf 2 Sun
250	Amand	Chestnut Creek	Chilton	Cooper's Station	Moses D. Pinson	William G. Easterling	4 Saturday
251	Camp Creek	Honoraville	Crenshaw	Honoraville	Thomas L. Quillian	Arrington L. Nichols	1 Saturday
252	North Port	North Port	Tuscaloosa	North Port	Henry H. Brown	Josiah H. Freeman	3 Saturday
256	Gaylesville	Gaylesville	Cherokee	Gaylesville	Abbott M. McWhorter	Leonidas D. Griffitts	4 Friday
257	Ervin	Holly Grove	Walker	Holly Grove	David Manasco	George W. McDade	4 Saturday
258	Randolph	Randolph	Bibb	Randolph	Reden D. Hicks	Noah B. Coker	Sat on or bfm
260	Bellville	Bellville	Conecuh	Bellville	Anthony D. Sampey	Henry S. Skinner	Sat bf 2 Sun
261	Talladega	Talladega	Talladega	Talladega	Myles J. Greene	Henry H. Hamill	3 Friday

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262	Highland	Highland	Shelby	Highland	Robert F. Johnson	John Acton	1 Saturday
265	Meridian	Meridianville	Madison	Bell Factory	John M. Humphrey	James M. Jones	1 Friday
266	Mount Pleasant	Mount Pleasant	Monroe	Mount Pleasant	Joseph W. Shomo	William M. Ferrell	2 Saturday
267	Wind Creek	Wind Creek	Tallapoosa	Dadeville	John Y. Johnston	John R. Umphress	2 & 4 Sat
270	Butler Spring	Monterey	Butler	Monterey	Comer J. Knight	Archie C. Luckie	Sat bf 2 Sun
272	Clifton	Clifton	Wilcox	Clifton	William A. Kimberly	Hamilton A. Ratcliff	1 Saturday
274	Paint Rock	Woodville	Jackson	Woodville	David R. Woodall	Lafayette Derrick	Sat on or afm
275	Frankfort	Frankfort	Franklin	Frankfort	Owen Burrow	John M. Tubbs	Sat bf 2 Sun
278	Northern	New Hope	Madison	New Hope	Joseph F. Ellett	George W. Childers	Sat of or bfm
280	Springville	Springville	Saint Clair	Springville	Andrew J. Nunnelly	Ira J. Spruiell	Sat bf 3 Sun
281	Charles Baskervi'e	Fayette C. H	Fayette		Elliott P. Jones	Gustavus Legg	Sat bf 4 Sun
283	Daviston	Daviston	Tallapoosa	Daviston	James M. Bishop	Green B. Watt	1 & 3 Sat
285	Georgiana	Georgiana	Butler	Georgiana	Pinkney M. Bruner	Elisha C. Milner	1 & 3 Sat
286	Walker	Arkadelphia	Blount	Arkadelphia	John W. Willoughby	Doctor S. Rice	Sat bf 2 Sun
287	Clinton	Skipperville	Dale	Skipperville	Levi Wilkinson	James M. Dixon	2 & 4 Sat
290	Gillespie	Cleaveland	Fayette	Handy	William Berry	William M. Ennis	Sat bf 1 Sun
291	Fort Deposit	Fort deposit	Lowndes	Fort Deposit	Thomas Blake	Meshack G. Hammond	2 & 4 Sat
301	Norris	Pollard	Escambia	Pollard	William J. O'Bannon	John B. McLellan	1 Saturday
304	Zion	Pine Grove Ch	Fayette	Mont Calm	Terrell M. Reese	Nathan A. Musgrove	Sat bf 3 Sun
305	Central City	Selma	Dallas	Selma	Julius C. Adler	Garner M. McConnico	2 Wednesday
315	Jonesboro	Jonesboro	Jefferson	McCalla	Frank Prince	Isaac W. McAdory	2 Saturday
319	Cluttsville	Cluttsville	Madison	Cluttsville	William A. Pettus	Benjamin F. Laxson	4 Saturday
321	Pleasant Hill	Allen's Factory	Marion	Allen's Factory	Lang C. Allen	Thomas P. Moor	1 Saturday
323	Holly Grove	Holly Grove	Jackson	Princeton	James F. Graham	James H. Cowan	2 & 4 Sat
324	Viola	Chepultepec	Blount	Chepultepec	William N. Crump	William G. H. Crump	2 Saturday
329	Madison Station	Madison	Madison		George R. Sullivan	John H. Dunn	1 Saturday
331	Charity	Six Miles	Bibb	River Bend	James A. Ray	James H. Pratt	3 Saturday
332	Blue Eye	Lincoln	Talladega	Lincoln	Thomas J. Brewer	James M. Montgomery	2 Saturday
334	Oliver	Choctaw Corner	Clarke	Choctaw Corner	William H. Slade	Stephen M. Gilmore	1 Saturday
335	Nanafalia	Nanafalia	Marengo	Nanafalia	Albert G. Westbrook	David P. Barr	3 Saturday
337	Johnson	Mount Ida	Crenshaw	Mount Ida	Benjamin R. Bricken	Sheldon J. Kelly	3 Saturday
338	Georgiana Davis	Trussville	Jefferson	Trussville	Thomas McClung	Dyer N. Talley	Sat bf 4 Sun
339	Albert Pike	Cherokee	Colbert	Cherokee	James S. Barton	William H. Avery	Tues bfm
341	Ragan	Davisville	Calhoun	Davisville	David A. Wright	William E. Bowling	Thurs bf 4 Sun
344	Pikeville	Pikeville	Marion	Pikeville	Middleton C. Martin	Meredith T. Akers	4 Saturday
345	Echo	Echo	Dale	Echo	Daniel C. Hunt	Calvin Barnes	2 & 4 Sat
346	Hurtville	Hurtville	Russell	Hurtville	Jacob Kurniker	Edward N. Brown	3 Thursday
348	Bienville	Mobile	Mobile	Mobile	Palmer J. Piliana	Benton C. Bain	2 & 4 Thurs

349	Ozark	Ozark	Dale	Ozark	Avent W Cotten	Mark A. Cook	1 & 3 Sat
351	Wilson Williams	Girard	Lee	Lively	James T. Holland	David A. Lupo	2 & 4 Thurs
353	Rock Mills	Rock Mills	Randolph	Rock Mills	George W. Taylor	Dunn K. McGee	2 & 4 Sat
355	Van Bufen	Van Buren	DeKalb	Collinsville	Solon E. Heard	Wiley D. Petty	2 Friday
357	Rutledge	Rutledge	Crenshaw	Rutledge	John A. Padgett	Edmund H. Johnson	2 Saturday
358	Barbour	Hull	Tuscaloosa	Hull	John D. Blocker	Thomas J. Farmer	2 Saturday
360	Newtonville	Newtonville	Fayette	Newtonville	Zachariah Savage	William W. Jones	Sat bf 1 Sun
361	Town Creek	Town Creek	Lawrence	Town Creek	Alexander P. Odom	William J. Smith	4 Thursday
363	Chester	Warrior	Jefferson	Warrior	Secretary W. Chappell	John Bush	4 Saturday
364	Pleasant Site	Pleasant Site	Franklin	Pleasant Site	James T. Bolding	James C. Richardson	3 Saturday
366	Cotaco	Skidmore Chapel	Morgan	Apple Grove	Isaac M. Jackson	James S. Rains	Sat bfm
367	Chandler	Edwardsville	Cleburne	Edwardsville	Thomas J. Burton	William B. Ferguson	1 Mon & 3 Sat
368	Cross Plains	Cross Plains	Calhoun	Cross Plains	John C. Bolls	Rufus W. Penny	Sat bf 4 Sun
369	Athelstan	Mobile	Mobile	Mobile	Thomas P. Brewer	Gabriel L. Long	Every Thurs
371	Russellville	Russellville	Franklin	Russellville	Benjamin W. Hudson	John W. White	Sat bf 3 Sun
373	Bell's Landing	Bell's Landing	Monroe	Bell's Landing	William M. Abernathy	Alexander T. Howard	1 Saturday
375	Gainesville	Gainesville	Sumter	Gainesville	Edward N. Kring	Thomas F. Ramage	Sat bfm
376	Sauta Creek	Hillian's Store	Marshall	Hillian's Store	John G. Winston Jun	Robert T. McCormack	4 Saturday
377	Lake City	Lake View	Covington	Lake View	William J. D. Cawthon	William J. Cawthon	4 Saturday
378	Weogufkee	Weogufkee	Coosa	Stewartville	James T. Thompson	Francis M. McEwen	Sat bf 1 Sun
381	E. H. Cook	Rehoboth	Wilcox	Rehoboth	John H. Malone	John W. Gaston	2 Saturday
384	Birmingham Fr't'l	Birmingham	Jefferson	Birmingham	Julian L. Lockwood	John L. Davis	2 & 4 Mon
386	Trinity	Trinity Station	Morgan	Trinity Station	Jasper N. Wade	William Q. Sewell	Sat of or bfm
387	Blue Springs	Blue Spring	Henry	Gordon	Thomas S. Stapleton	John R. M. Neel	1 & 3 Sat
389	Newburgh	Newburgh	Franklin	Newburgh	Wesley M. Smith	Thomas H. Moore	Sat bf 4 Sun
391	North Border	Salem Church	Limestone	Mount Rozelle	Thomas F. George	James C. Gordon	1 Saturday
392	Hickory Flat	Hickory Flat	Chambers	Hickory Flat	Green L. Carmichael	Nathaniel E. Baker	1 & 3 Sat
394	Valley Head	Valley Head	DeKalb	Valley Head	James M. Price	George M. D. Lowry	4 Friday
395	Opelika	Opelika	Lee	Opelika	Isaac Heyman	Heineman Blumenfeld	1 & 3 Thurs
396	Falkville	Falkville	Morgan	Falkville	James T. Morris	Felix G. Srygley	Sat of or bfm
397	Black Oak	South Hill	DeKalb	South Hill	Jacob B. Wilbanks	Robert F. Gilbert	3 Thurs
398	Hartselle	Hartselle	Morgan	Hartselle	John F. Turney	Andrew A. Oden	Sat of or bfm
399	Haw Ridge	Haw Ridge	Coffee	Haw Ridge	Benjamin F. Warren	Samuel D. Clark	4 Saturday
400	Hanceville	Hanceville	Blount	Hanceville	William J. Dunman, S.W.	James P. Green	2 Saturday
402	Green Hill	Green Hill	Lauderdale	Green Hill	Henry A. Killen	Burris C. West	Sat of or bfm
403	Childersburg	Childersburg	Talladega	Childersburg	Richard E. R. Hicks	Henry J. Cliett	Sat bf 3 Sun
404	Hoboken	Hoboken	Marengo	Hoboken	Stephen S. Etheridge	John W. Young	1 Saturday
405	Mineral Spring	Blount Springs	Blount	Blount Springs	John P. Willoughby	William S. Self	Sat bf 1 Sun
406	Dorie	Tallassee	Elmore	Tallassee	Edward B. McCluskey	James K. Polk	Tues af fm
407	North River	North River	Tuscaloosa	North River	Samuel T. Brown	Richard F. Gibson	Sat bf 2 Sun
408	Hillsboro	Hillsboro	Lawrence	Hillsboro	Benjamin M. Simpson	Robert F. Bentley	Sat of or afm
409	Pondtown	Pondtown	Geneva	High Falls	Joachim L. White	Wilson Boswell	1 & 3 Sat

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410	Helena	Helena	Shelby	Helena	John L. Davis	Horace W. Bowers	2 & 4 Sat
411	Jemison	Jemison	Chilton	Jemison	Hiram M. Hays	Thomas M. D. Earheart	Sat bfm
412	Amberson	Amberson	Cherokee	Spring Garden	Thomas H. Amberson	Thomas N. White	Sat bf 1 Sun
414	Sulphur Springs	Hanna's Springs	DeKalb	Sulphur Springs	Joseph H. Gardner	Samuel C. Lowry	Thursday
415	Oak Level	Oak Level	Cleburne	Oak Level	James P. Lawler	Wilson P. Howell	Sat bf 4 Sun
416	Williamsburg	Williamsburg	Jefferson		Calvary Williams	John E. Williams	4 Saturday
417	George Smith	Toad Vine	Jefferson	Toad Vine	William C. Howton	Samuel J. Huey	3 Saturday
420	Broomtown	Broomtown	Cherokee	Broomtown	Harrison J. Clark	Richard F. Selman	Sat bf 4 Sun
421	Cullman Fraternal	Cullman	Cullman	Cullman	Thaddeus W. McMinn	Charles A. Beckert	1 Friday
422	Shorterville	Shorterville	Henry	Shorterville	Thomas B. Clark	Thomas J. Farmer Jr.	Sat bf 1&3 Sun
423	Clanton	Clanton	Chilton	Clanton	William D. Sartor	Isaac D. Lanier	1 Saturday
424	George Wilson	York Station	Sumter	York Station	James M. Peteet	Robert D. Hoot	4 Saturday
425	Temple	Marion	Perry	Marion	John G. Apsey	Nathaniel T. Green	1 & 3 Mon
426	Daniel Pratt	Oxmoor	Jefferson	Oxmoor	George W. Smith	Benjamin F. Haynie	2 & 4 Sat

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REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave herewith to submit their annual report, and review of the doings and condition of corresponding Grand Lodges, for the current year of 1878.

Your committee have been favored during the past year with the usual quota of Grand Lodge reports from sister jurisdictions and present herewith, in alphabetical order, their condensed review of the same, adding at the close of this report a full list of the proceedings received and reviewed.

MASONIC STATISTICS,

Arranged in tabulated form; and thus affording convenient as well as accurate information as to the real progress of the Fraternity in their several State Associations, and collectively, are essential to a fair understanding of the general condition of the Craft; and we renew, as a matter of general interest, the statistical tables commenced for the first time, in this jurisdiction at least, in our last annual report.

For these statistics, as heretofore, we are greatly indebted to that indefatigable and learned Masonic reviewer, Brother Josiah H. Drummond of Maine, whose tables (the following) we have adopted without alteration, having found them on examination so accurate as to admit of no change or amendment from any data within our reach.

Again remarking that the reader must bear in mind that the figures herein stated, both as to "statistics" and comparison of "statistics," relate mainly to the preceding years, in other words where 1879 is named the statistics are derived from reports of 1878, and so likewise those under head of 1878 and 1877 relate to conditions existing in 1877 and 1876, respectively. With this explanation we submit annexed the usual statistical and comparative tables:

TABLE OF STATISTICS.

Grand Lodges.	Members.	Raised.	Admitted and Restored	Withdrawn.	Expelled.	Suspended.	Suspended for non-payment of dues.	Died.	Rejected.
Alabama	7,925	308	478	382	9	9	598	147	66
Arkansas	8,293	429	425	380	15	31	274	119	....
British Columbia	312	15	26	14	0	0	2	6	6
California	12,281	489	610	414	6	12	374	184	137
Canada	17,418	1,099	450	635	4	19	526	162	....
Colorado	1,569	103	103	51	2	2	38	18	55
Connecticut	14,968	444	150	115	7	8	347	162	154
Dakota	281	27	21	9	0	0	20	1	....
Delaware	1,235	37	10	15	0	0	*19	13	1
Dist. of Columbia	2,701	114	92	36	1	0	178	38	....
Florida	1,842	82	94	69	5	....	*98	24	37
Georgia	12,491	387	297	487	50	....	*523	181	.. .
Idaho	358	10	7	11	1	...	*6	6	7
Illinois	38,610	1,550	1,018	1,482	64	..	*1,442	472	470
Indiana	26,665	921	673	1,091	201	64	542	366	....
Indian Territory	343	52	28	20	3	...	*9	8	....
Iowa	18,486	799	490	761	18	27	.....	117	....
Kansas	6,687	221	430	251	10	5	259	50	....
Kentucky	18,038	761	598	948	34	...	*1,556	204	....
Louisiana	5,456	144	158	146	3	...	*210	160	...
Maine	19,252	544	732	328	5	5	504	235	178
Manitoba	324	35	10	10	0	0	41	1	...
Maryland	5,349	160	10	110	2	....	*237	60	....
Massachusetts	25,926	1,010	1,406	738	5	....	592	293	392
Michigan	25,624	934	585	723	48	..	830	232	279
Minnesota	7,061	370	208	205	7	....	192	55	...
Mississippi	9,849	247	331	354	15	13	455	278	...
Missouri	24,296	860	839	856	52	45	415	256	272
Montana	664	34	39	19	1	1	18	11	14
Nebraska	3,117	151	255	147	9	8	88	20	....
Nevada	1,508	62	85	79	2	1	58	16	....
New Brunswick	2,317	160	56	100	0	....	*73	24	....
New Hampshire	7,688	231	348	123	1	2	95	86	87
New Jersey	12,084	468	260	182	7	8	377	129	....
New Mexico	169	12	7	5	0	...	*3	6	5
New York	75,918	2,953	1,423	983	40	8	5,056	1048	750
North Carolina	11,471	193	112	223	14	27	435	100	67
Nova Scotia	3,424	213	108	145	0	0	177	37	59
Ohio	28,836	1,125	1,180	760	102	26	1,671	278	....
Oregon	2,514	150	122	100	4	3	61	27	22
Pennsylvania	36,942	1,125	280	427	...	....	*1,434	412	....

TABLE OF STATISTICS—Continued.

GRAND LODGES.	Members.	Raised.	Admitted and Restored.	Withdrawn.	Expelled.	Suspended.	Suspended for non-payment of dues.	Died.	Rejected.
P. E. Island....	566	40	11	37	0	0	22	10	....
Quebec....	2,873	209	27	191	.....	.....	*169	21	....
Rhode Island...	4,327	69	88	21	2	4	.....	44	40
South Carolina	6,531	290	.....	201	.....	.....	*385	82	5
Tennessee.....	17,053	387	496	731	37	358	255	324	....
Texas.....	17,340	673	1,052	1,035	56	...	*566	249	308
Utah	376	34	27	30	0	0	26	2	9
Vermont.....	7,978	228	91	134	8	6	114	83	80
Virginia	9,930	.....	64	.....	8	....	*270	123	....
Washington.....	902	42	55	19	4	4	4	6	16
West Virginia ..	3,385	168	108	149	6	10	136	30	52
Wisconsin.....	10,703	530	292	356	3	10	272	90	170
Wyoming	300	29	15	10	2	0	2	2	....
Total.....	582,556	21,788	16,880	16,747	874	716	22,054	7108	3838

*Including suspensions for all causes.

COMPARISON OF STATISTICS.

	1879. Gr. Lodges.	1879. Totals.	1878. Gr. Lodges.	1878. Totals.	1877. Gr. Lodges.	1877. Totals.
Members.....	54....	582,556....	54.....	592,443....	52....	602,089
Raised.....	53....	21,788....	51.....	23,861....	50....	30,695
Admissions, &c.....	53....	16,880....	51.....	16,744....	46....	17,976
Dimissions	53....	16,747....	51.....	17,681....	49....	18,920
Expulsions.....	51....	874....	48.....	986....	49....	1,039
Suspensions	36....	716....	37.....	770....	37....	1,064
" npt. dues.	52....	22,054	48.....	21,051....	40....	17,261
Deaths.....	54 ...	7,108....	52.....	7,038....	50....	7,102
Rejections.	28....	3,838....	29.....	4,374	26....	6,142

It will be seen that the total membership has fallen off again, the decrease being just about the same as the preceding year; some of the Grand Lodges have increased, however.

Those which have increased are Alabama, Arkansas, California, Canada, Colorado, Dakota, Indian Territory, Iowa, Kansas, Manitoba, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Brunswick, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, Oregon, Quebec, Rhode Island, Texas, Utah, Washington, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

Those which have decreased are Connecticut, Delaware, District of

Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, Nova Scotia, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Prince Edward Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont and Virginia.

The suspensions for non-payment of dues have increased about *one thousand*. The suspensions within the last ten years, aggregate the enormous amount of ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND!

Before proceeding with this report, planned as it is on the theory and structure of its predecessors, we beg permission, for consistency sake, to withdraw the promise intimated in 1877, of remodeling these reports so as to permit a more general discussion of masonic principles and usages as seen from our standpoint. Mature reflection has convinced us that in these semi-historic records, in which the true life and genius of Masonry as known to our era is to be portrayed, the less they are burdened or confused by mere individual opinions the better will they be suited to their illustration of the real characteristics of current masonic times.

Instead of *our* own spinions, therefore, we prefer to illustrate the spirit of masonry by quoting the views of those whose high official positions in other Grand Bodies mark their utterances as authoritative expositions of the prevailing sentiments of their several Grand Jurisdictions, and we shall continue to seek from the Grand Masters, through their addresses, such indices of the prosperity or adversity of the Craft in each jurisdiction as may appear noteworthy, either for encouragement or warning to us of Alabama.

Carlyle has said, very truly, that "opinion is doubly related to action; first as cause, then as effect, and the speculative tendency of any age will, therefore, give us, on the whole, the best indication of its practical tendency." If therefore we can, by our proposed plan, gather and record correctly the real thought or opinions of the Craft in all jurisdictions, we will have done much towards illustrating the practical tendency of this masonic age. As men *think*, so will they *act*, unless restrained by some paramount control, forcing them away from their natural bent; and if we can but ascertain the opinions of the brethren, both at home and abroad, we may easily and surely predict their eventual action on any question of masonic usage or ethics. Thus believing, we begin our search in the reports before us for those opinions of the Craft so doubly related to, and genitive of, ACTION.

ARKANSAS.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Arkansas, commenced its 39th annual communication, in Little Rock, October 14th, 1878, M. W. P. G.

M. E. H. English, presiding. This communication appears to have been called to meet the requirements of the constitution, pending a proposed change thereof designating the second Tuesday of January as the stated period of its annual meeting, this proposition, however, not having been ratified by the representatives present, another amendment was submitted, and we think adopted, proposing the fourth Tuesday of November of each year as the time for the regular annual communications of this Grand Lodge.

The October communication was speedily adjourned, and the Grand Lodge called to refreshment until the 2d Tuesday of January, 1879, and on that day, the 14th of January, the Grand Lodge was called to labor, M. W. Grand Master John F. Hill, presiding, with all Grand Officers at their posts, and assisted by the representatives of 120 subordinate lodges (of a total of 327 constituent lodges). Just here, par parenthesis, we beg to express our regret that the response to the roll call, in this and numerous other Grand Lodges, is so often made by those who are PROXIES for the regular lodge officers. As a general remark, applicable to all jurisdictions, we take this occasion to say that we think the working officers of lodges are the only really useful and desirable lodge representatives in a Grand Lodge; because of their special and necessary familiarity with the condition and interests of their several lodges. Of course in all Grand Lodges the constituents are P. G. officers, as well as lodge representatives, and the former element will always carefully guard and conserve the general principles of Masonry, should the latter constituency, from any cause, fail in proper respect for the "landmarks."

The lodge officers, in enforcing the edicts of the Grand Lodge in their lodges, are brought into direct contact with their legitimate effects upon the Craft; and they are also familiar with the condition of the lodges and able to suggest legislation, appropriate to the necessities of the case, whether as restraining from evil or promotive of masonic purity and progress. They are also, especially the Master and Wardens, the sentinels on our *outposts* and can, in person, best convey to the CITADEL the tidings of warning or encouragement suggested by the outlook.

They are, as we conceive it, skillful master overseers, practical observers of the wants and ways of the Craft, and just in proportion as any Grand Lodge is deprived of such advisers and workers, so will its labors be fruitless of beneficent results, and tend to disturb the harmony of the jurisdiction. (Excuse this digression, it has extended far beyond our original intention.)

M. W. Grand Master Hill, in his annual address, takes occasion to congratulate the Grand Lodge upon the blessings of health, favorable sea-

sons, as well as freedom from *political* or *religious strifes or controversies* within the lodges.

He alludes with regret to the deaths of M. E. J. W. Jordan, G. H. Priest, and R. W. W. H. Sutton, P. G. Lecturer; but is assured that they have "entered into the Temple not made with hands, and as Master Workmen, they are seated on the right hand of Him that called them." He commends the reports of the D. D. G. Masters as indicating "faithful work." Some of these Deputies "report their lodges in good working order, *considering the low price of cotton and hard times.*

He alludes feelingly to the disastrous epidemic of the previous year, and gave token of his sympathy not in words only, but also by a liberal Grand Lodge donation in aid of the distressed.

His decisions, as reported, are five only in number, and those relate to subjects often discussed and similarly decided in other jurisdictions.

He says of—

ST. JOHNS' COLLEGE.

This institution is under the management of Trustees of the College, and is in a prosperous condition. Some twenty or twenty-five beneficiaries, students of deceased Worthy Brothers, are receiving an education free of charge, appointed by me as Grand Master, and there is a debt hanging over the College, and I recommend an appropriation to pay said debt, and relieve the College.

We must here apologize for and retract our discouraging remarks of last year, in reference to St. Johns' College. We gave it up as another failure in the effort to sustain a Masonic College under Grand Lodge control. The mistake was natural enough, as well as excusable in the view of the very discouraging allusions to the condition of the institution made by Grand Master M. M. McGuire, in his annual address of 1877, wherein he likened the situation of the Grand Lodge, in reference to that institution, to the man who "had bought an Elephant and did not have the means to fit out his menagerie or run his show." Gladly do we hail the indication in this report, (derived also from information gathered in a personal inspection of the college and property,) of new and brighter prospects ahead for St. Johns. We quote below a portion of the interesting report of the President of the Board of Trustees of the College, as further evidence of its stability and prosperity:

Notwithstanding your Worshipful Grand Body, at its annual communication in October, 1877, declined longer to appropriate the surplus revenues of the Grand Lodge to aid in the maintenance of St. Johns' College, the Board of Trustees are happy to report, that from the resources of the corporation, they were able to support the institution for

the ensuing collegiate year, pay all of its current expenses, carry the usual number of free students, meet the interest upon the College debt promptly as it matured, and pay $1,000 of the principal.

The Trustees determined to know no such word as "fail" in prosecuting a great educational enterprise, so much needed in our young and growing State, have placed the institution under the management of Col. Leo Baier, as President, aided by adjunct professors, for the collegiate year 1878-9.

The general alarm about the spread of Yellow Fever, which prevailed during the last fall, retarded to some extent the opening of the College, and the coming in of students; but happily, Little Rock escaped the dreadful scourge which fell so terribly and mournfully on some of her ill-fated sister cities East of the Mississippi; and when the alarm was over, students flocked to the College, and the number during the first half session is an increase upon the number in attendance during any session of the last four years.

Col. Baier, the President, is a gentleman of the highest order of scholarly attainments, experience in the management of colleges, ability, energy and perseverance of character, and believes that he can, and declares that he will build up the College.

He is assisted by professors, in every way competent and qualified to fill the chairs assigned them; selected and nominated by himself, and confirmed by the Board of Trustees.

The Trustees have provided for the admission of thirty free students, appointed as heretofore by the Grand Master, that being about the number on the free list during previous sessions of the College. Of this number, Col. Baier teaches ten free of charge, and for the other twenty, the Trustees pay him at the rate of forty dollars for each student for the collegiate year.

Thus, and to that extent, with the limited revenues of the College, the Trustees are endeavoring to carry out the noble design of its founders to aid in the education of the children of indigent and deceased Masons. It may be a dream, but they hope and believe that the time may come, when the friends of education will endow this College, as that its doors may be thrown open for the admission of *all students free of charge*.

* * * * * * * * *

E. H. ENGLISH,
Pres't. Board of Trustees St. Johns' College.

FOURTEEN dispensations for new lodges were granted by G. M. Hill in 1878.

The Grand Orator, Brother Fay Hempstead, delivered an admirable address on

THE STRENGTH OF VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATIONS.

He makes the zeal, purity and consistency of the individual member the criterion of the stability and usefulness of the Association, which is aptly illustrated, as the following quotations will attest:

* * * * * * * * *

Let each individual of a society be actuated by a high degree of zeal, bent on acting fully and in every respect up to what is expected of him, and you have an organization founded in adamant; around whose base the flood of years may break and break, but still it remains.

Let the individual be lukewarm in his devotion, acting niggardly up to duties and hardly that; doing grudgingly whatever is done, and you have a structure built upon dissolving sand; a temple it may be fair and enticing to the outward view, but within exhibiting only a dead cold splendor—a dry husk, from which the quickened grain of life and action has departed.

It is unfortunately true, that men are in large part so indifferent to each other's welfare; so involved in self and their own concerns, that they have little thought or attention for what does not immediately redound to their personal gain or advancement; but instances are not wanting where men whose hearts are of the larger mould, rise above the narrow limits of self concern, and enlisting under the fair banner of philanthropy, do valiant battle with want, need, sickness, and distress, for no other reward than an approving conscience, and the applause of that "still, small voice" that tenants the inner corners of their souls. * * * Are there not too many in our midst who are cold, indifferent, slack and faint; who are Masons only in name; conspicuous at funerals and other public processions of the Order, but invisible in attendance on the Lodge and its work; in kindly offices to the sick; in remembering "the widow and the orphan, and the Brother fallen into decay."

But I have no misgivings as to the stability of Masonry on this account. There may be drones in our midst, but we have only to look backward to the long stretches that lie between us and the Temple, to see that faithful breasts have been the rule, different ones the exception. An organization having no other cohesive principle than the voluntary support of its members, could never have stood so long a beacon light shining in the dark, if there were not faithful watchers to keep the lamp trimmed, and the vessel filled with oil.

Now since the individual is the all essential element in creating the general result; is invested with so much power, and so much depends for success upon his particular zeal, it follows that unless he is elevated in his principles, and raised to a high standard in his morals, the society which he composes will be correspondingly lowered in its tone, and dragged down to the low level that he makes for it.

It is no matter that a society has a high object; if it be not composed of men who themselves have high principles to act up to that object, it will in execution assume a downward trend; the good of the object will fade out unfulfilled; or be made to remain content with a lesser grade of performance. You can not expect the fountain muddied at its source, to send forth the pure stream that was designed for it. * *

When the great Frederick of Prussia organized his National Guard, he permitted only those to enlist therein who were six feet high by actual measurement. This selection from the most perfect types of physical manhood, created a splendid body of soldiery, whose imposing appearance commanded the attention of every one wherever they went; and I doubt not the mere fact of his being so conspicuously one of a chosen band, had the effect of making each man a better soldier.

Certainly, Brethren, we could not do better than to carry the great Monarch's precept as to physical qualifications into the moral sphere, and say that no man can enlist among us, unless in conduct and pure principles he stands six feet high without heels!

When the conduct of each member is squared by this rule, the society which they compose can not fail to be durable. Experiments that have been made in governing men in the past go to show, that those systems are longer lived where an elevated manhood is established and appealed to to *lead*, than where force is employed to *drive*, the subject. The forcible may for a time overawe and terrify the citizen, but in time it becomes the victim of its own blind fury; and turning upon itself dies from the venom of its own sting * * *

Masonry in Arkansas, as these proceedings fully attest, is marching on under able and experienced leaders to the conquest of the difficulties incident to its location in a State but recently the border land of internecine strife, resounding with "war's dread alarms," and scourged by its havoc and desolations until the light of true civilization had flickered as if about to be extinguished amidst the throes of revolution. Peace, gentle restorer! came at last to renew the hopes and inspire the efforts of the good and wise, to clear away the rubbish from the Temple, to build up the waste places and bring order and enterprise to the rescue of State and Fraternity from the dominion of war and discord. Now, both politically and socially, our friends in Arkansas are enjoying a new dispensation of peace, progress and plenty. A well deserved recompense for the trials and perplexities of the past, and none so well appreciate or so properly utilize these pleasantly changed conditions as our brethren of the mystic tie, as a summer's sojourn and intimate intercourse with them enables the writer most feelingly to assert.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Is, as heretofore, under charge of our Brother, Geo. E. Dodge of Little Rock, who has in the report before us illustrated alike his general intelligence and peculiar aptness for the special duties of a reviewer.

He gives the proceedings of Alabama (57th annual communication) due and fraternal consideration. Alludes briefly to the address of G. M. Pillans, and notices appropriately the death, as announced in the proceedings, of P. G. M. James McCaleb Wiley. Gives the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, through its Chairman, a puff and a blow. Thanks for the compliment, the reprimand we will endeavor to return in kind should a fitting occasion arise. We are too grateful still to Brother Dodge for recent pleasant and well appreciated civilities extended to our invalid self, while tarrying awhile in Little Rock last September, to think, just yet, of retaliation. Only this we must ejaculate, in that re-

gard: Brother D., when our comments appeared too "*thin*," you should have considered the *thickness* of the address to which they related. Was there no discoverable fitness in opposing a *thin foil* to a *thick foible?* or is the present (tense) so comprehensive as to absorb the past and include the future? Brother D., after an interesting review of all reports submitted to him, thus alludes in "conclusion" to the general situation, which we quote approvingly:

The attitude of American Grand Lodges towards Foreign Grand Bodies, remains almost unchanged. If there has been any change, it has not been in the direction of closer alliance or more fraternal relations. We are drifting further away from the Grand Orients and Grand Confederations, and the conviction forces itself more strongly every year upon the observant Mason, that we have very little in common with Masonry *as organized* upon the continent of Europe. Exceptions--like that for instance, in the case of Switzerland—are not to be forgotten. This condition of affairs seems to give greater force and efficacy to the American doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge sovereignty on our side of the water. Upon the whole, we say, that Masonry in America appears to be in a quiet and comfortable condition; and is enjoying a kind of prosperity more the result of *keeping out of trouble*, than of any brilliant achievement to which we can point.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECT.

M. W. Brother George Thornburg.....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother L. E. Barber.....Grand Secretary.

CALIFORNIA.

We are favored with the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of California, at its twenty-ninth (29th) Grand Annual Communication, held in the city of San Francisco, on Tuesday the 8th day of October, A. D. 1878. M. W. Grand Master John Mills Browne presided in the Grand East, and opened in ample form a Grand Lodge comprising, in addition to its constituents of Grand and Past Grand officers, the representatives of 173 (of a total of 201) chartered Lodges, with delegates from 6 Lodges U. D. The record is, as usual, voluminous and very interesting, much detail work having been dispatched with commendable zeal and thoroughness.

We know not how better to acquaint our readers with the true characteristics of our brother craftsmen in this great Hive of the occident—this "ultima thule" of civilization, where the tide of empire stays its onward march only in respect to the Pacific barrier which cautions against an advance likely to disturb the repose of the races keeping watch over the

cradle land of our race, so grown and improved as to be unknown and unknowable to their oriental progenitors—than by copious extracts from the full and able addresses of their Grand Officers. This we proceed to do by quoting, first, from the annual address of Grand Master Browne. Of general principles and prevalent errors he thus discourses.

"The defense of masonry may be safely left to itself, while its beauties and attractions, either mystical, sentimental, or social, will have a masterly portrayal in the impassioned eloquence of our brother, the Grand Orator He will bring flowers, whose color and fragrance will enrapture the senses. I will give you fruit the half-ripened with the mellowed—the savory with the unpalatable.

Faults may be found in the best systems, and irregularities exist in the best methods Men do things in opposition to original resolution, and when done are astonished at the act. Men, however excellent in goodness, have moments of weakness moments when the clearness of their moral perceptions is clouded. So societies, like individuals, are purer some days than others

Certain Masons have erroneous ideas as to the true intent of practical Masonry, and these ideas, when entertained by the outer world, become, in its estimation, facts. Now it is not a fact that it is a system of benefits and endowments, that it is a membership to promote business interests, or that in any way its workings recognize its receipts as loans, from which a proportionate benefit, in manner of a return, may be derived. It is purely and simply a system of practical charity in its highest sense, disbursing its funds for the relief of the poor and suffering, without specific amount or defined allowance, but corresponding in sums to the actual want.

It is not a fact that it is a club or place merely of social gathering, an assemblage of boon companions for conviviality or selfish gratification. It is a companionship of brothers, united by mystic bonds, which, while affording gratification to the social feelings, finds new motives and added obligations to rectitude of life, and to the practice of the genuineness of benevolence: a society for instruction, for the promotion of public and private virtues, for the encouragement of social improvement in every form, for the enhancement and refinement of common life, and for the advocacy of reformatory schemes with intent to cope successfully with social mischief.

It is not a fact that it is co-equal with, or takes the place of, religion. It is a perfect system of morality, of no nationality, and, as such, is the conservator of religion. It progresses with the highest civilization, and, by its propagation of human sympathy, unites men of all nations in one common bond of unity. Masonry has no creed but faith; it cherishes hope and fears not, and employs charity in place of persecution. Although discountenanced by suspicion, and excommunicated by jealousy, it continues to be recognized as a steadfast and powerful instrument for the promotion of peace and good will among men.

There is a popular belief that Masons, when acting as judges, jurors, or citizens, frequently permit the guilty members of the Craft to escape such justice as they would measure to those not members of the order. An eminent officer of the government addressed me on this subject, and although believing that such conduct was in opposition to the law of

masonry, yet he had no faith that it was adopted by many as the rule for their guidance. Not long since one of the Craft was tried in this State for murder. The evidence adduced was such as would authorize conviction, yet the jury failed to agree, nine being in favor of a verdict for murder in the first degree, and three for it in the second degree. Of the nine, four were masons—of the three, two were masons; and the public generally believed that the disagreement was occasioned by masonic influence in behalf of the accused, because he was a mason. If the brothers who adhered to the lesser finding were controlled by the fact simply that the accused was a mason, then it is hardly necessary to inform you that they failed to do their duty as jurors, and had no precedent for such action in masonic law.

Masonry acknowledges the supremacy of the government, enforces respect for the civil magistrates, and enjoins upon its followers an obedience to law, to be exemplary in the discharge of civic duties, and to be quiet and peaceable citizens. It does not array itself against law, or seek, however remotely, to shield the guilty from punishment. It has its own trials, and convicts offenders who have been acquitted in civil courts by reason of legal or verbal technicalities; and while it exercises, as far as practicable, a sympathizing equity, it exacts, when the occasion demands, a rigid justice. There is no condonation of crime in masonry. One is first a citizen, then a mason. Bad citizens make bad masons. Good masons are always good citizens. They recognize their duties to society as paramount, and are aware that the general welfare reaches them as well as others; that, as all is more than a part, their duties as good citizens to the common community are among their primary obligations; and that support to the laws and the punishment of law-breaking is alike expected, irrespective of the professions of the offenders. It is time that less informed masons and the non-masonic community should be told that neither judge nor jury, as masons, have a right to avert a merited punishment from a guilty mason, or in any civil procedure to have their verdicts influenced in favor of a party because he is a mason. This is not masonry, and if it were, then masonry would be justly doomed.

There is a disposition manifested by some Lodges to accumulate money, apparently for the sake of accumulation, and to avoid, as far as circumstances will permit, its disbursement in the care of the sick and burial of the dead. If the duty can be performed by others upon whom the recipient may have no claims, it is most willingly acquiesced in; the motive in such instances being how to avoid doing it. This is an unpleasant fact, but its truth can not be truthfully denied. I fail to understand the object of our institution, if it be only to exhibit its principles in words, rather than in administering to each other's necessities unselfishly. The Persians say: "I consider him as my friend who takes me by the hand in the season of adversity and distress." This is masonry—the other is not. Lodges should care for their own, and see that their burdens be not imposed upon others. Accumulate as much as you desire, but make the accumulation for the purpose of doing the most good. If the treasury be exhausted, then have recourse to personal donations; if this be impracticable, then surrender your charter. The suffering will suffer, and the dead will remain unburied, if dependent only upon masonic professions. The truth often hurts, but pain is frequently em-

ployed to cure a diseased numbness. You who especially dislike the veneering of masonry are willing to receive the truth.

The meagre attendance at the funeral of a brother, which not unfrequently happens, is another deplorable fact. This remark is applicable mainly to masons who reside in large communities. To pay the last and tribute of respect to a deceased brother, to evince to his family and friends the estimation had of his character and the regret experienced at his loss, and to exhibit to the public that the brotherhood performs that which it professes, are duties not to be omitted without injury to the Fraternity. *It may necessitate some inconvenience; it requires a little time to accompany the departed brother to his resting-place,* there to cast the evergreen and give the farewell, but the inconvenience will soon be forgotten, and the time will not be regretted, in the consciousness of having done unto him that which you would have done unto you when the ending comes. To honor the dead is commendable, to ignore the dead is lamentable. Masonry inculcates the first, and condemns the last."

After speaking in terms of pointed and just rebuke of certain Lodge abuses, including faulty records, the prevalence of cliques and rings, attempts at proselytism *et al* of errors not at all peculiar to California masonry, he gives a general view of, and useful caution to, his Lodges, in the following words:

"I have now officially visited every one of the thirty-two districts of our large jurisdiction, including that at the Hawaiian Islands. Some of the districts have been visited thrice, many twice, but all once. When one considers the extent of the State of California, which embraces nearly as many square miles as are comprised in the New England and Middle States combined, or, in other words, a territory sufficiently large to form twenty-four States of the size of Massachusetts, one will better understand the number of miles traveled in making these visitations. If also it be considered that, to reach many of the localities, it required not only transit by water, but over rough and tediously long roads, one will better understand the fatigue endured and the time required Fatigue and time, however, are not to be arrayed in opposition to the pleasure enjoyed, the instruction imparted, and the information obtained, resulting from an individual association with the brethren, listening to their grievances, reconciling differences, establishing closer relations, and having an exact knowledge of the community, its resources and probable future, in connection with the fraternity. It is true that the duty performed in making these visitations was self-imposed, yet it is a duty which I think pertains to the office of the Grand Master, and I sincerely trust that it may have continuance.

I could well employ the language used in my last message, regarding the fraternity throughout the jurisdiction, were it not a reiteration, so closely does the condition of the past year approximate to that of the present. The causes of financial, commercial, and industrial depression having been but partly removed, the amount of work done by the Lodges is not substantially different, although the indications are favorable for an immediate activity. The causes which interrupt the harmony, retard the growth, and impair the efficiency of Lodges, are almost invariable, and when looked for, where these unfortunate conditions exist, are always

found (I have repeated them so often that you will have already anticipated the stereotyped phrases,) in lack of attendance and interest in Lodge labors, reckless introduction of material, persistent misuse and malignant abuse of the blackball, and non or tardy payment of dues. To these may be added a cause incident to the existence of a clique, or, if you will pardon the expression, a ring which saps the very vitality of the Lodge. Fortunately this cause is not of prevalence, but it is certain that it does exist in a limited degree. A brother who has failed in his preferment for office, or who has a friend who has failed, or has been rejected, or who can not control the action of the Lodge sufficiently well to suit his views, or to use the old simile of Plato, has not his horses sufficiently well in hand, feels aggrieved, and, in ventilating his grievances, attracts others similarly situated, who by nature, are intended to be always in opposition; and thus there becomes established a clique or ring in political parlance, whose watchword, if taken from its actions, is rule or ruin. If they can not rule they pursue a ruinous policy, as manifested by discord and inefficiency within, and unhappy reputation and reproach without. This is no exaggeration; such conditions do exist, but it is not masonry. If it were, you would exclaim, Away with it! It has been said that the mother eagle compels her young ones to fly by putting a thorn into their nest. I know of nothing that would be more efficacious in increasing the number of non-affiliates than such Lodge management. This is writen in a sad, as well as a condemnatory spirit; and, knowing the disastrous effects, it has occasioned many an anxious and regretful thought, and the strength of these reflections is 'in being true to the truth.' When such things are done in the name of Masonry, I am reminded of an illustration, by Saadi, in the Gulistan, which reads thus: "A man with a disagreeable voice was reading the Koran aloud, when a holy man passing by asked what was his monthly stipend. He answered 'nothing at all.' He resumed—'why then do you take so much trouble?' He replied, 'I read for the sake of God.' The other rejoined, 'For God's sake do not read; for if you read the Koran in this manner you will destroy the splendor of Islamism.' And so, if this be done for the sake of masonry, then for masonry's sake, let us pray that it may not be done."

We quote the following decisions:—

"*Question.*—Is it competent for the Master to dismiss a case when charges have been preferred against a brother, on the production of a transcript of the record of a Grand Jury ignoring the case when presented before it? Succeeding this action, a member preferred charges and commissioners were elected.

Answer.—The action of a grand jury does not obviate a masonic investigation. As charges are made and commissioners are elected, it is advisable that the trial proceed, in equity to the accused and to the fraternity.

Question.—Should charges be returned to the accuser, in a case where a reconciliation has occurred before the election of commissioners, or should they be retained in the archives of the lodge?

Answer.—The case having been settled without action on the part of the Lodge, there is no propriety in filing the charges in the Lodge archives.

Question.—Has a Lodge the right to give, or sell for a nominal price, a

valuable tract of land to any number of persons, for them to incorporate under the laws of the State as a Masonic Cemetery Association?

Answer.—If a Lodge owns real estate, not required for the purposes of the Lodge, it has the undoubted right to dispose of the same, provided that due notice of the intended action be given, and if, at a stated meeting, the proposition be adopted by a majority of the members present.

Question.—Is a non-affiliate required to make application to the nearest Lodge in the jurisdiction in which he resides?

Answer.—No; he can apply for affiliation with any Lodge in this jurisdiction.

Question.—Are the members of a Lodge entitled to know the name of a brother who objects to the initiation of a candidate elected to receive the degrees?

Answer.—No. It is sufficient for the Master to know that an objection is made and that it is a valid one.

Question.—Is there any remedy to prevent a member from voting negatively when the same is the result of malice, spite, or prejudice?

Answer.—The ballot is secret and inviolable, is a mason's great prerogative, and is without question, except on the ground of an unintentional or suspected mistake. It is not competent to demand of a member his reason for voting in the negative, and there is no power to deprive him of his vote, even if it be apparent that it is adverse to the applicant by reason of malice, spite, or prejudice.

Question.—Shall a blank be counted?

Answer.—No. Obviously, in a contested election, it is not to be supposed that any one would purposely deposit a blank; and when found, under such circumstances, it is undoubtedly the result of a blank adhering to a written ballot. In the Grand Lodge blanks have never been counted.

As to the eligibility of persons for the degrees, in the cases of one who had lost the second finger of the right hand, of one who had lost two fingers of the right hand, of one who had a contracted right thumb touching the palm, and of another with a stiff knee. I had only to reply that a regulation of the Grand Lodge requires that a candidate must have his right limbs as a man ought to have, and be able to conform literally to what the several degrees respectively require of him.

His response to the cry of distress from the (then) yellow fever districts was alike prompt and munificent. See annexed quotation from his address:

In consultation with the Grand Secretary, it was determined to send by telegraph-transfer the sum of five hundred dollars to each of the Grand Secretaries of Masons in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee, we assuming the pecuniary responsibility. The intended action was submitted to the Senior Grand Warden and the Grand Treasurer, who acquiesced therein and wished to assume a proportionate responsibility. Fifteen hundred dollars were drawn from the General Fund and forwarded. In its acknowledgment, the statement of the situation presented was such that I immediately caused a circular letter to be issued to the Lodges, inviting their contributions. How promptly and generously this was responded to will be shown by a report to be made by the Grand Secre-

tary. Several Lodges had anticipated the receipt of the circular by forwarding their donations, and the members of others had given through other funds. From moneys thus obtained, in addition to the amounts above mentioned as sent from the treasury of the Grand Lodge, five hundred dollars were sent to Louisiana, and fifteen hundred dollars each to Mississippi and Tennessee, while more than three thousand dollars still remain with the Grand Secretary, information having been received that no further remittances were needed.

Brother James C. Batchelor, Grand Secretary of Louisiana, wrote from New Orleans, as follows :

It was our wish to be able to do without assistance, so that it might be contributed to others who possibly might need it more than we, but the demands upon the Relief Lodge are multiplying, and we now deem it proper to accept, that we may not risk the possibility of being unable to meet the distress and wants of our suffering brethren from other jurisdictions. On receipt of the funds, I shall immediately transfer the amount to Relief Lodge, as from the Grand Lodge of California, whose well known philanthropy has heretofore been so often chronicled as to make the present tender no surprise ; and we hope that the disposition of the amount and the relief afforded will meet the expectations of the kind donors.

Brother J. L. Power, Grand Secretary of Mississippi, wrote from Jackson, in the following terms :

Will draw as requested to-day. We are very grateful and will hereafter make more appropriate acknowledgment. I have hardly time to keep up with the demands upon me. All funds received are distributed at once to Vicksburg, Port Gibson, and Grenada. The fever has just broken out here, but we had obtained a local subscription that may be sufficient. The enclosed 'extra,' which I try to print daily, will show you the situation. We have at least six weeks more to go through. All is gloom and almost despair. May God help us! Our good friends all over the country are doing what they can.

Afterwards he telegraphed :

Thanks for your third contribution. Our California brethren have done enough. Please don't send more. Remittances now coming from other places will be ample. Have supplied all pressing cases, and will have something for the widows and orphans when fever subsides. May you always be able, as you always have been willing, to help the distressed.

Brethren, during my administration no act has occasioned to me such gratification as that which was afforded by your true Masonic response to my appeal in behalf of the destitute and suffering. By it you have illustrated the principle which asserts the brotherhood of man, and by it you have exhibited that unselfish love so poetically described by Schiller :

"Have love. Not love alone for one, but man as man thy brother call,
And scatter, like the circling sun, thy charities on all."

Grand Master Browne alludes very appropriately and most feelingly to the deaths of William Edward Moody, assistant Grand Secretary, and Henry Huntly Haight, Past Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge, and Governor of the State of California from 1867 to 1871, of whom the mortuary

record abounds with expressions of praise as a citizen, lawyer, gentleman, and brother, closing with the exclamation : "He leaves us nought but pleasant memories of his life and grief for his untimely death."

Brother Thos. Guard delivered the annual oration, treating of masonry most acceptably and eloquently under a sevenfold cable of strength and beauty, spun of the self-preservative cords of antiquity, mystery, government, charity, skill, fraternity, and knowledge of *immortality*. We have enjoyed this interesting and suggestive address, and while we dare not reproduce many of its beauties must, nevertheless, give our readers a taste of its qualities ; choosing one specimen from that portion treating of '*mystery*' as an element of masonic stability and prosperity, viz :

It appeals to us by the element of the mysterious. This susceptibility of our nature is incessantly touched, from the moment of our entrance upon life. We enter at birth a universe in which wonder is excited, curiosity elicited, investigation challenged, at every step of our progress from the cradle to the tomb. Every leaf incloses a mystery, every atom is a world, and every insect an abyss of wonders. The ceaseless play of life within me, the genesis of thought, the growth of a habit, the formation of character,—a mystery, over which PLATO bends with fervent gaze, and in whose gaze LOCKE may well lose his way. And this mysteriousness, investing all things, is no mean stimulant in the breast and brain of traveler and explorer,—of scholar poring over dusty scroll,—of scientist, as he follows the comet,—as he deciphers the fossilography of the hoary hills,—as he "fixes a sunbeam," and cross-questions it by his spectrum,—as he heaves the lead in the ethereal waters of his unseen spirit ; or as, with BANCROFT, he explores the sepulchral ruins of the tribes that once lived and roamed, hunted, fought, and died, when our forefathers worshipped THOR, or burned incense at the shrine of WODEN.

Man is "Nature's Priest," and as he pursues his researches he is but lifting, fold after fold, the vails suspended in Nature's temple ; and each parted vail at once admits him within a light of revelation more startling and enravishing, and gives his clarified eye to look upon another curtain of mystery, behind which lurk secrets yet more subtle,—wonders still more entrancing. The greater the mysteries solved the profounder is the conviction that these are but transparencies compared with the thicker curtains that yet shall dare the trembling fingers to lift or part them. No one is so alive to the fact of mystery as the man most wealthy in his acquisition of the lore of physics and of metaphysics. And yet the mystery is not because of scantiness, but because of superfluity of the element. "It is dark with excess of light."

The light of morning revealing, after a starless night of tempest, while it dissolves the mystery of the gloom, spreads before and around me new mysteries ; a mystery in every pebble and in every plant ; in every insect's instinct and in every wild bird's plumage ; in every snow-flake and in every gem ; in every laughing, leaping school-boy's spirit ; and in every venerable politician who assures us that he has expended the vitality of his brain and being in self-sacrificing service for his country's weal. Mystery ! mystery ! It is everywhere ; and when, by dying, we

shall pass "within the vail," while upon much, if not all, the mystery of this life explanatory light shall fall—never as then shall the soul apprehend the Inscrutability of being. Then, as for the first time, shall the marvels of existence move the fountain of the great deep of our nature, and bear us away and away for aye in effort to solve, discover, and explore. This is one of the charms of the life that now is; it shall be no less an element in the felicity of the life that is to come.

Our Order gratifies and provides for the healthy play of our nature by its sublime mysteries. And these are not mysteries of iniquity. Slanderous libels have been uttered respecting them, I know. They are but the spiteful, the malignant fabrications of sanguinary fanatics or of a depraved priesthood. With ignoble deeds of darkness we have no sympathy. Of what we do, of what we teach, we fear not any criticism. Honor is sacred; reputation is inviolably shielded; and every brother can exclaim, "I dare do all that may become a man!"

Who can object to or oppose such a system as ours? Is he a moralist? Then here may he learn the purest ethics and practice the most manly virtues. Is he a patriot? Then here may he be helped in the culture of those principles which uphold government, reverence law, and promote that righteousness which exalts a nation. Is he a philanthropist? Then we can assure him that no less profoundly than he do we believe that pure Masonry, and undefiled before God the Father, is this—that we visit the widow and fatherless in their affliction, and keep ourselves unspotted in the world. Is he an antiquarian? Then here are hoary annals for his study and antique customs for his scrutiny. Is he a poet? Then here are symbols for his fancy, and sublimities for his imagination. Is he a presbyter or priest? Then we tell him that religion shall find in us one of her most useful auxiliaries, one of her most fair and generous handmaidens, and that the theology which he *inculcates* we live to *embody*. We, as he, believe in one God; as he, in one great light of conduct, the Holy Bible; as he, in one great comfort and help in all seasons of trial, peril, woe,—even prayer; and as he, anticipate another and a better world.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Brother Wm. H. Hill, Chairman, presented the report on correspondence, reviewing with his well known skill and thoroughness the proceedings of 5 Grand Lodges, including those of Alabama for 1877—the fifty-seventh annual communication.

Of Grand Master Pillans' address, he says:

The address of Grand Master Palmer J. Pillans—a brief but well-written document—was presented and read by the Grand Secretary. He expressed his regret at his inability to attend this communication of the Grand Lodge, and congratulated the Fraternity on the "better dawning for Masonry in the State. Though but few lodges had been formed, yet several of those which had become dormant had been recalled to life and vigor." He had issued dispensations for the formation of five new lodges.

The Grand Master of Wisconsin having complained of the violation of

his jurisdiction, in conferring the degrees upon a rejected candidate from that State, the Grand Master, on inquiry, finding the complaint well founded, had made suitable apologies, and the good feeling between the two jurisdictions continues.

Several of the decisions of the Grand Master are published, but we find none calling for special comment.

Brother Hill appears to have taken in all our Alabama doings, likely to interest other jurisdictions, and, as a general remark, seems to approve the specimens of our work presented for criticism in the *budget* for 1877.

He has, however, a strange fancy that *complexion* governs the human capacity for *blushing*. It is true that there is a color attributed to the blush, by common consent, but may not any hue of complexion reflect that pleasantly embarrassing emotion? by which, we blush to own, his retort courteous has caused our naturally ruddy cheeks to glow with color rivaling that of the *ruby*. He says:

> Were not our complexion a decided brunette, we should certainly blush at the compliments heaped upon our unworthy head by Brother BEERS. We wish that we deserved a tithe of the kind and flattering words spoken. If Brother B. always does as well as in this and his preceding report, he need not fear a comparison with the best productions of his confreres of the reportorial corps. Having alluded to our report, he follows it with this pithy comment: "From these low grounds of the Gulf-coast may this pleasant HILL episode lure our hesitating feet to attempt to scale even the heights of California attainments." And so much higher, we add, that we may be content to sit at his feet and learn wisdom.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Jno. Mills Brown (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Alex. Gurdon Abell (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

CANADA.

The proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Canada now claim our attention, and are all the more welcome from the regretable absence from our table of reports from that Jurisdiction for several years past.

The report is in two volumes—one containing the proceedings of five special ceremonial assemblings and of the regular work during the twenty-third grand annual communication, held in the city of Toronto, commencing September 11th, A. D. 1878, excepting the report on correspondence, which is presented in the second volume above referred to.

M. W. Grand Master Brother W. H. Weller presided, and opened in ample form a Grand Lodge comprising, with the usual constituents of Grand Officers and Grand Representatives, a constitutional quorum of lodges represented.

The Grand Master's annual address is a modest recapitulation of the year's doings, in which his participation, as we gather from the following report of the "Board of General Purposes," was peculiarly beneficial to the craft. We quote in part their report:

In considering the review of the past year, presented by the M. W. the Grand Master, in his address, the Board desire to offer him their congratulations at the satisfactory manner in which the affairs of Grand Lodge have been conducted under his direction. It must be gratifying alike to him and to Grand Lodge to mark the progress made during the year just ended by the Craft in our jurisdiction, much of which is due to the ability and tact displayed by the M. W. the Grand Master in his exalted position.

The continued interest in Freemasonry on the part of the community at large is evinced by the Special Communications held for the purpose of laying the foundation and corner stones of churches in different parts of the country, while the erection, dedication and consecration of many new buildings for the purposes of Masonry, and the establishment of new Lodges for the dissemination of the principles of our Order, is a satisfactory indication of the zeal and energy of our brethren.

It is hoped that the countenance which Lodges of Instruction held during the past year have received from the M. W. the Grand Master, by his personal attendance, patronage and approval, will prove an encouragement to the Brethren in other parts of this jurisdiction, and that the advantages of such assemblies of the Craft may be appreciated by all who take an interest in the proper working of Lodges.

Grand Lodge is specially indebted to the M. W. the Grand Master for the care exercised by him in the revision of By-laws submitted to him, and it is hoped that the new code of By-laws submitted, will enable Lodges more satisfactorily to adopt such regulations as are within their power as Subordinate Lodges.

The Grand Master, corroborated by "the Board of General Purposes," reports a satisfactory financial condition as follows:

The balance then at the credit of Grand Lodge was	$58,876 87
During the half year ending June 30, 1878, the receipts from all sources have been	7,654 14
Total	$66,531 01
The payments on all accounts during the same period have been	6,436 89
Leaving at our credit	$60,094 12

Representing the following amounts at credit of the respective funds, viz:

General Fund	$30,308 67
Asylum Fund	8,078 65
Benevolent Fund, Investment	20,998 20
" " Current	708 60
	$60,094 12

He advises thus discreetly as to action in the Quebec-Scotland controversy :

The G. L. of Scotland and our neighbor the G. L. of Quebec are not on friendly terms, owing to questions of jurisdiction that have arisen of some difficulty and of some importance. I refrain from discussing these questions now, in the hope that the rulers of the Craft in both jurisdictions may speedily find a way of closing the breach that has been made. The circular forwarded by the G M. of Quebec, and the printed proceedings of the G. L. of Scotland, which contain all the official information that I have received on the subject, will be laid before you. I think that in the interests of Masonry, it is not desirable that we should actively interfere in this matter at present, nor, with the information I have yet had, express any opinion upon it.

He is equally correct and prudent, we think, in advising as to the matters involved in the annexed paragraphs, viz :

The Grand Lodges of Spain, Egypt and the Island of Cuba ask for formal recognition and exchange of representatives. Freemasonry in the Queen of the Antilles is not in a satisfactory state at present, the Grand Lodge of Colon and the Grand Lodge of the Island of Cuba both claiming supreme jurisdiction. It will be well to defer the recognition of either of these bodies.

The papers received relating to the formation of the Grand Lodge of Egypt and the resuscitation of the Grand Lodge of Spain are submitted for your consideration.

The Grand Orient of Spain and the Grand Lodge of Egypt were recognized. Action as to CUBA and COLON was deferred.

The Board of General Purposes submitted, and the Grand Lodge adopted, the following edict against

THE GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE :

The action of the M. W. the Grand Master, in withdrawing the credentials of our representative from the Grand Orient of France, will be approved of by every member of Grand Lodge—the Grand Orient of France having erased from its constitution those paragraphs which assert a belief in the existence of God and the immortality of the soul. Such action can only be received as an abandonment of the great landmark of Freemasonry upon which the principles of our Order are formed, and it is opposed to the traditions, practice, and precepts of all true Masons from the earliest period of our history. Such a departure calls for decisive action, and demands response, with no uncertain sound, from all true Masons. We, therefore, desire to record our determination to hold no intercourse with any Body which does not acknowledge the existence of the Supreme Being—the T. G. A. O. T. U.,—and that we cannot continue to recognize the Grand Orient of France as a Masonic body. Lodges working under our jurisdiction will henceforth refuse to admit as a Mason any person hailing from the Grand Orient of France, or its subordi-

into the midst of their own Lodges ; they see themselves a torn, lacerated, divided body. But it may be said that this concerns them alone. Brethren, if indeed this were a matter of internal discipline,—if it were one of those questions of internal regulation which are the exclusive property of each national Grand Lodge,—it would be beside our duty, it would be impertinent in us to interfere with it. No matter what the grievance was, no matter what the loss was to them, we should have no right to interfere. But we do interfere on this broad ground, first of all, that they cannot so affect the leading principles of Masonry, the fundamental principles on which, through generations past—through centuries past, I will say,– the Craft has acted. they cannot so affect them without affecting the whole of the Masonic body ; and it is alike our right, and our duty, to raise our voice. But we must also remember that equally questions arise which touch us intimately. French Masons come over to this country ; they ask for admittance into our Lodges ; and how can we admit them if the Masonry of France be not pure in its fundamental principles. We do, ourselves, and we have, perhaps, the right to call this Grand Lodge the mother Grand Lodge of all Europe, we do ourselves, and the interests of the Craft which are committed to us, a grievous wrong and injustice, if we are silent in this matter. Brethren, I say that these questions, to which I have alluded, are really of the essence of Freemasonry. The history, the traditions of Masonry are based on them, are bound up in them. The symbols that we use, the charges which we deliver, the ceremonies in which we take take part, if these principles are to be discarded, they become meaningless, and worse than meaningless, they become almost offensive mockery ; and I know nothing that would so justify the scurrilous taunts that have been thrown out against Freemasonry at times, and the calumnious misrepresentations which have been hurled against it, as it would be by sanctioning, even by silence, such a step as that which the Grand Orient of France has taken.

GRAND OFFICERS :

M. W. Bro. W. H. Weller (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges on Roll..... 324
Number of Chartered Lodges represented in G. L., 1878..... 224

COLORADO.

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The annual communication was attended by the representatives of 21 (of the 23) chartered lodges and a large number of visiting Brethren.

The M. W. Grand Lodge having been opened in Ample Form by M. W. Brother Cornelius J. Hart, G. M., whose annual address briefly alludes to the doings of the year, and suggest needed legislation for the good of the Craft in that jurisdiction.

He speaks of Brother Lounsbury, who had recently removed from Illinois to Colorado in pursuit of health, with warm affection, as "kind and courteous, with a great loving heart in which there was room for the entire Craft, clinging with a devotion unsurpassed to the institution that he delighted to honor, and in whose service he had spent his strength, he has left an example worthy of our imitation, and a name honored and revered by the Craft in his own jurisdiction."

He also announces with regret the death of their P. G. Master Andrew Mason, at Central City, Dakota, October 31st, 1877, and says of him:

Brother Mason figures conspicuously in the early history of Masonry of this State. In 1861 he served this Grand Lodge as D. G. M., and in 1865 as Grand Master.

He was an active, zealous Mason, plain and unassuming in his manners, with a warm and generous heart that beat responsive to all the higher and nobler attributes of the human nature, an earnest student in the school of Masonry, and eminently qualified to preside over the Sons of Light.

He granted dispensations for three new lodges. He objects with much force and propriety to Sec 91 of G. L. By-Laws, which provides "that petitioners for dispensation for a new lodge need not be dimitted, and that should a charter issue, the petioners therefor are dimitted from their former lodge. No provision is made defining the position that the petitioners occupy towards either the old lodge or the new in regard to the payment of dues while U. D."

With us the rule is to dimit for the purpose of applying for a dispensation to form a new lodge.

He is also very pointed in urging more efficient provision by law to teach and enforce uniformity of work.

GRAND ORATOR.

This post was resigned by the regular appointee, Brother R. W. Bosworth, who expected to remove to Nevada, and the Grand Master made no new appointment; yet an oration was delivered before the G. L., Brother Geo. Wallace officiating. We have read the address and confess to no little surprise at its style and matter. It is really a lecture containing many truisms suited to lodge purposes and instruction; but

quite below the standard of an ORATION. The defence of Masonry against the attacks of the Priesthood or of Priest controlled religionists is a work of supererogation in this age of reason and of progress. Our strength, as against the malice of such foes and the envious thrusts of their puny weapons, is impregnable! Planted firm upon the ROCK OF AGES with our PANOPLY of TRUTH, victors in innumerable contests of the past, who dare now attempt to wrest from our firm grasp the banner of fraternity and love borne aloft, with its pure folds undefiled, through unnumbered centuries of fierce but ineffectual opposition and strife? We are marching onward and tending upward; too much absorbed in the great work of reform and progress to heed the petty impediments of the way, whether interposed by malice or ignorance. We know and heed the call to labor and emulation, as expressed by the gifted WORDSWORTH: "The primal duties shine aloft like stars; while the charities, that soothe and heal and bless, are scattered at the feet of man like flowers." Let others contend for *supremacy*, while our emulation shall be, who can best serve the MASTER and his workmen, GOD and MAN!

The work of the lodge was well done, including a fair arrangement for a division of labor among District Deputy Grand Lecturers "for the purpose of obtaining a more perfect uniformity of work," under control of the Grand Lecturer and Grand Master.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Is well represented under the capable supervision of Brother Lawrence N. Greenleaf, Chairman, whose report comprises a full review of the proceedings of 48 Grand Lodges, including those of Alabama for 1877.

He notices with all due consideration, the principal acts of that communication, alluding prominently to Grand Master Pillans' annual address, and to the proceedings relating to the death of P. G. M. James McCaleb Wiley.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Roger W. Woodbury (elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Ed. C. Parmelee (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges	23
Number of U. D. Lodges	3

CONNECTICUT.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut, held its 91st grand annua, communication, in the city of New Haven, commencing Wednesdayl January 15th, A. D. 1879.

Present, M. W. Grand Master Dwight Phelps, who opened the Grand Lodge in Ample Form, assisted by his Grand Officers, the representatives of a quorum of constituent lodges and several permanent members, comprising Past Grand Officers and Grand Representatives.

The Grand Masters address is interesting, but treats mainly of topics of local concern. He mentions incidentally the noble response made by his lodges to the appeal on behalf of the yellow fever sufferers of 1878, resulting in a contribution of over $2,300 00 to that relief fund. The G. M. thus briefly makes up the record of the

FRATERNAL DEAD.

February 11th, 1878, Brother Gideon Welles, one of the oldest members of St. John's Lodge No. 4, passed to that long home toward which we are all hastening. Of his Masonic history I can give you but little information. He was raised in St. John's Lodge, February 8th, 1826, making his Masonic age 52 years.

Of his record in the service of his country as Secretary of the Navy, you are already familiar.

On the third day of March, our veteran, and R. W. Brother John W. Leedes, of Union Lodge No 5, passed to the rewards and honors of a well spent life, at the age of four score years ; he was W. M. of Union Lodge fourteen years, from 1821 to 1836, and was appointed G. S. D. of this Grand Lodge in 1853 and 1854 ; elected Grand Junior Warden in May, 1855. He was a zealous Mason, and eminently respected by those who knew him.

On the 25th day of September, Brother Seth E. Marsh, W. M. of St. John's Lodge No. 4, died at his home after a short illness. Brother Marsh had many friends, and was universally esteemed for his unflinching integrity. I believe Brother Marsh is the only Master who has died while in office during the year.

I would recommend that pages be set apart in our proceedings in memory of Brothers Welles, Leedes, and Marsh.

During the yellow fever scourge at the South our brotherhood gave liberally of its means, and many of its brighest jewels have been sacrificed to the hunger of the destroyer ; among others we note conspicuously M. W. Andrew J. Wheeler, P. G. M. of Tennessee, and chairman of the relief committee, at Memphis ; and M. W. Harvey W. Walter of Holly Springs, P. G. M. and P. G. H. P. of Mississippi. These men might have left their posts and been safe, but they considered it to be their duty to stay and administer to the relief of the sick and afflicted ; "verily greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friend."

We note in these proceedings the adoption of the followihg amendment to the constitution, viz.:

35. That no Master Mason, in this jurisdiction, of thirty years' good and regular standing, shall be subject to discipline for non-payment of dues.

Which we are inclined to approve and commend to other jurisdictions where worthy Masons who have in health and prosperity been faithful workers and contributors are apt, when age and misfortune have overtaken them, to be "suspended."

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

This report is from the pen of Brother Joseph K. Wheeler, Grand Secretary and Chairman, and is fully up to the standard established by his preceding able deliverances. He reviews the proceedings of 47 American Grand Lodges, including Alabama report of 1877, and adds a very interesting feature in his chapters on England, Ireland, Scotland, and Cuba.

We thank him for the useful and instructive reading furnished, especially in the latter part of his report.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Israel M. Bullock (elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Joseph K. Wheeler (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges	112
Number of U. D. Lodges	1

DAKOTA.

The 4th annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Dakota, convened in the town of Sioux Falls, on Tuesday, June 11th, A. D. 1878, and we are favored with a pamphlet copy of the proceedings thereof. M. W. Grand Master Geo. H. Hand, presided, and opened in *Ample Form* a Grand Lodge composed of representatives of all of the six (then) Chartered Lodges.

His address is well written and abounds in expressions of gratitude to the "Great Grand Master" for the blessings of peace, prosperity, and health, which have attended them individually and promoted the harmony and success of their new organization.

We regret that he had occasion to complain, seemingly with cause, of vexatious encroachments upon his jurisdiction by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota. The case, as stated by the Grand Master, is one that admits of no reasonable excuse. This unfortunate controversy occupies several pages of the Grand Masters address to our sorrow ; for we like not controversy, and are sure, from the character of his remarks on other topics, that without that "bone" of contention, his address would have proved most acceptable. Vide his remarks on the

GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE :

As a sad commentary upon the spirit of innovation which is rife in this age of the world, and which seems to be laying its ruthless hand upon the institution of Freemasonry, and from whose touch nothing is sacred, I call your attention to the fact that the Grand Orient of France, in September last, struck from its constitution the words which require a belief in God and the immortality of the soul. At one fell stroke they strike down two of the Landmarks of Ancient Freemasonry. It is almost beyond belief that any body of men, claiming to be Masons, could do this thing. By the consummation of this act they cease to be Masons. No man claiming to be a Mason, who yields obedience to the Grand Orient of France, should ever be permitted to darken the portals of a Lodge in this jurisdiction.

A Mason without a God ! A ship without a rudder ! A world without light !

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Geo. H. Hand (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Charles T. McCoy (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... 7

DELAWARE.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Delaware convened at the city of Wilmington, A. D. October 2d and 3d, its 72d annual communication.

Grand Master Thomas N. Williams presided, and opened the Grand Lodge in ample form. Present also numerous P. G. Officers and Grand Representatives, with a constitutional number of Lodges represented.

The Grand Master's Address gives assurance of harmony and prosperity within the jurisdiction, and of fraternal regard for the Masonic Brotherhood at large.

His decisions are few and we quote them in full, viz:

"1st. The Treasurer of a Lodge has no right to pay an account due

himself, until it has passed the Lodge—(and under our practice an order should issue signed by W. M. and Secretary.)

2d. It requires a *unanimous ballot* to re-admit a brother who has dimitted from his Lodge.

3d. The certificate of the Master or Secretary of a Lodge, is not sufficient evidence of the absence of an entry, after the proceedings have been approved by the Lodge.

4th. A Lodge can not ballot to confer any one of the three degrees at a *called* communication.

5th. No member of any subordinate Lodge shall be suspended for non-payment of dues, until after charges have been preferred, and trial has been had.

He pays a well deserved tribute to the memory of one of the *great* and *good* of our fraternity, now at refreshment above, which we reproduce and adopt:

"Past Grand Master, George W. Chaytor, died April 13, 1878. I am informed by reliable authority that the said brother was initiated September 7th, Passed and Raised November 2d, 1841, in Lafayette Lodge No. 14, of this city. He dimitted December 7th, 1841, was readmitted February 1st, 1842, and was elected Master June 4th, 1843. He again dimitted, December 5th, 1854, and affiliated with Temple Lodge No. 11, of this city, January 10th, 1855, and remained a member of the same till the day of his death. He was elected Senior Grand Warden June 27th, 1845, and Grand Secretary June 27th, 1849, which position he held for five years, and was elected Grand Master October 7th, 1875.

Most, if not all, of the members of the Grand Lodge knew our beloved and lamented brother, The reports made by him as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence to this Grand Lodge, which have graced the pages of its records for years, are familiar to many of us, and the wise and good counsel and sterling sense that marked every thing from his pen, were always appreciated, and shall be still more so, now, that the brain that dictated and the hand that wrote are mouldering in the dust.

My Brethren, I feel that my tongue and pen are inadequate to express fully, the loss which our Grand Lodge has sustained by the death of our brother. Let his *Masonic* virtues and labors be kept in memorial! In the high gift of such a brother to our Order, Providence favored us immeasurably, and his memory deserves the highest place of honor on our record."

We also copy, with approval, a paragraph from his "Conclusion":

"Kingdoms, empires and republics have risen, flourished, and decayed with age, since the advent of the Order of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons. While the innumerable institutions founded at different ages of the world, for the amelioration of the mental, moral and physical condition of man have passed away, Masonry has silently pursued her course, a passive witness of political and religious conflicts, that scattered ruin and desolation over the fairest fortunes of this fair globe. Her mission is one of peace; and although *criticism*, *slander* and *envy* have, under every conceivable pretext, persecuted her, under the banner of Love she has, in her silent march, protected by the sword of Truth, maintained

the conflict, and has spread a zone of philanthropy about a world. My brethren, let us cherish our Order, guard it from all evil influences, and let us live up to the true principles of our *Masonic profession*, looking with confidence to the great *Light* that has guided us through past ages."

No report on correspondence.

GRAND OFFICERS:

M. W. Brother John Taylor (elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother William S. Hayes (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS:

Number of Chartered Lodges.....22

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The 68th annual report of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia is before us, containing the proceedings of several special assemblages and of the following regular communications, viz:

A Stated Communication held January 9th, 1878.
A Semi-annual ditto held March 8th, 1878.
The Annual ditto held November 13th, 1878.
And an Installation Communication convened December 27th, 1878.

The business of the Grand Lodge, distributed through so many assemblages of the craft, must be and is, we judge, very promptly and efficiently transacted; but, with a larger and less compact body, such frequency of meetings would be a fruitful source of evil.

The Grand Master's annual address, delivered at the annual communication held November 13th, 1878, gives a concise and interesting statement of the condition of the craft, and we quote his remarks on that subject, viz:

"In compliance with the requirements of the Grand Lodge Constitution, attended by the officers of the Grand Lodge, I have just completed the annual grand visitations to the constituent Lodges. The examination into the work and affairs of the Lodges has been complete and thorough, and I am glad to be able to report that the result has been in all respects highly gratifying. The work has been done in conformity to the requirements of the Grand Lodge; the books have been neatly and correctly kept. Indeed, some of them are marvels of elegance and accuracy. With very few exceptions the Lodges have greatly reduced the average indebtedness of their members for Lodge dues, and have larger cash balances on hand than at our last visitation, and this notwithstanding the pressure of hard times and the small amount of work done in the jurisdiction. An unusually large amount has been disbursed in charity,

and the present prosperous and flourishing condition of the Lodges fully demonstrates that their management has been entrusted to wise, judicious and intelligent officers, who have honestly and faithfully performed their duties.

The well-established and popular custom of having an address before each Lodge, on the occasion of grand visitations, has been adhered to this fall.

The attendance on these occasions, at all the Lodges, has been unusually large, and the learned, instructive and eloquent addresses delivered have been listened to with great attention, and will doubtless produce beneficial results. I desire to express my thanks to the brethren who so kindly responded to my invitation to deliver these addresses on these occasions."

He closes by a gentle reproof against egotism, thus:—

"In conclusion, my brethren, I desire to impress upon you the great importance of harmony in all your actions. As individuals, I am afraid we are all too prone to criticise the actions of others; too slow in adopting and acting on good suggestions, and too apt to oppose every effort, no matter how commendable, if not proposed by ourselves. Every brother seems to feel (and perhaps it is a natural feeling) that his own plan for accomplishing a particular end is better than any other that can be proposed, and, consequently, he is unwilling to yield his opinions and prejudices, even when opposed by a large majority of his brethren, and thus often prevents that united action which might result in great and lasting benefit to the fraternity. "Know thyself," is the hardest lesson we have to learn. None of us are infallible. We can all learn from each other; and, if we would accomplish any great good, we must act in harmony. In the great Masonic field of labor, harmony in all things should be the predominent feature. Then, my brethren, I again exhort you to cultivate the spirit of harmony. Lay aside self, and act together for the best interest of our great brotherhood."

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Brother W. R. Singleton, G. S. and Chairman, in this report sustains fully his well-earned reputation as a critical writer, and we thank him for the instruction and pleasure afforded us by its perusal; as well as for personal courtesies extended to the writer while recently seeking to know and confer with Masonic celebrities at the capitol.

He reviews the proceedings of 44 American and of 8 Foreign Grand Lodges. His notice of Alabama, 57th annual report, 1877, is brief but satisfactory.

Brother Singleton inveighs against the confusion of the work in that department known as "jurisprudence," and fights manfully for uniformity—e. g.:

"We repeat what we said under Kansas, that which we contend for is, the conformity to the landmarks and fundamental principles as laid down for us in the "Old Constitutions," and a quick return to them, from the

"devious ways" introduced into our "statutes" from Dermott's Original "Ahiman Rezon," and by which our jurisprudence has been confused, as shown in the many decisions laid down in all our works on jurisprudence. In our efforts for the past seven years in this direction, we have succeeded in gaining to our side many of our best thinkers. We now hope, within a short period, to get our leading Masons up to the idea of a "Convention" in this or some other city, to adopt some general uniform code for the whole country on Masonic law and practice.

When that shall have been accomplished successfully we will lay down the pen, satisfied with our life's work; for then, what will be Masonry in one State will be Masonry for all—which is not the case now, as will have been seen in reading the decisions in this report.

GRAND OFFICERS:

M. W. Brother H. A. Whitney (elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother Wm. R. Singleton (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges.....21

FLORIDA.

We have no later report from this Grand Lodge than the one for 1878, January 8th, reviewed in our last report. The absence of the proceedings of 1879 is regretted.

GEORGIA.

The 92d Grand Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Georgia, convened at Macon on Tuesday, October 29th, A. D. 1878.

Present and presiding M. W. James M. Mobley, Grand Master. They show a long list of GRAND and PAST GRAND OFFICERS, GRAND REPRESENTATIVES, PAST MASTERS, and MASTERS representing constituent Lodges, (very few proxies).

The Grand Master's Address rehearses pleasantly and concisely the events of the year in that jurisdiction. He says of "FOREIGN RELATIONS" that "harmony reigns and we are at peace with other jurisdictions throughout the world." The Grand Orient of France denounced and repudiated as a masonic body (see resolutions reported by Brother Lawrence from Committee on Correspondence and adopted) is of course out of *this* world, for peace sake.

Under the head of

FINANCE

he says, "the credit of the Grand Lodge is good—her bonds are eagerly

sought." Very true, we doubt not, but pity 'tis, if true. We sympathize with every Grand Lodge (*city, State, or nation,*) under the *bondage* of debt, and while we wish them safe deliverance from such degrading servitude, think their present sufferings and embarrassments should caution against the evil *habit* of getting into debt.

The financial condition in Georgia is, undoubtedly, improving, and we observe that in the new constitution and by-laws, recently adopted by the Grand Lodge, a schedule of fees for warrants ($70) etc., and of contributions from Lodge members ($1 each), is provided, which should relieve the Grand Treasury of all embarrassment on the score of revenue.

The Grand Master speaks very favorably of the condition and prospects of the

SOUTHERN MASONIC FEMALE COLLEGE;

and yet, Brother A. E. Andrews offered and the Grand Lodge adopted, the following resolution in reference to it, viz:

Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master be instructed to appoint a committee of five whose duty it shall be to report to the next regular communication of this Grand Lodge the best method of severing the connection betweeen this Grand Lodge and the Southern Masonic Female College at Covington, Ga.

We quote the interesting remarks of the Grand Master, under the head of—

GENERAL WELFARE.

While financial embarrassment has been one great cause of our languishing condition, there is another prominent one: the non-observance of one of our first principles, which requires the members to attend the regular meetings of their Lodges. One of the last injunctions of our Father Paul to his Hebrew brethren was, "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith, without wavering, (for he is faithful that promised,) and let us consider *one another* to provoke unto love and good works. *Not forsaking the assembling* yourselves together, as the manner of some is, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as ye see the day approaching." We are social creatures; the very soul and spirit of our Institution is brotherly love and charity—nothing more, nothing less. Our rituals and ceremonies are best calculated to promote them within our sacred halls, where there is communion of sentiment and feeling, rejoicing and weeping together, advising and counseling each other, cultivating all the social virtues which alone can make us prosperous, wise and happy; fully realizing the sentiment, "How good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." It is like the holy oil that was poured upon Aaron's head, that ran down on his beard, even to the very skirts of his garment, for thereon the Lord commanded a blessing, even life forever more.

Let me earnestly beseech you, my dear brethren, for your own good, and that of the members of your respective Lodges, to require prompt and regular attendance at your regular meetings, which may always be interesting, even should there be no initiations, passings or raisings, in other ways well known to you all. How can a Mason, who regards its teachings, willingly absent himself from the stated meetings of the Lodge? He can most generally attend, if he will try to make his arrangements to suit the time; and yet, in our towns and cities, when the hour for meeting arrives, and the signal is given, few will heed it; many will be seen walking the streets, sitting about the hotels, stores, and, shall I say, bar-rooms, no, I hope not, while a few true, noble, generous brethren, are engaged in the great work of love and charity, to the brethren and all mankind, *including these very careless, indifferent absent brethren.* Oh, my brethren, let us meet often, and engage zealously, in the great work of subduing our own evil, wicked passions. This is the peculiar province of Ancient Free and Accepted Masonry. Let its manhood be thus reasserted, and its classic renown be revived, so that all men will admire and enjoy the beautiful workings and results of our time-honored institution, producing, like complicated machinery when in motion, the sweet music of many concordant sounds."

The Committee on Jurisprudence reported unanimously their approval of the following resolution, and the report was adopted—

"*Resolved*, That the loss of an eye does not, of itself, disqualify a person from being initiated, passed and raised in a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons."

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

This is a good report, and, although not signed, is, as we gather from intimations in the proceedings, from the pen of Brother Samuel Lawrence.

He reviews with care and judgment the proceedings of many American Grand Lodges, giving to those of Alabama a prominent place. In speaking of G. M. Pillans, he jumps from the *blue* to the *red*—for P. J. P. is still as heretofore, the able and accomplished Reporter on *Chapter* Correspondence. His mistake is thus expressed—

"The Most Worshipful, Palmer J. Pillans, the *quondam* genial and accomplished Reporter on Foreign Correspondence, being unable to attend at the opening of the Grand Lodge, his Address was read by the Grand Secretary."

Brother Lawrence strangely misinterprets our lament (of 1876) over the enforced silence of Georgia's eloquent voices—(being forbidden to speak in order, as we suspect, that the printing expenses of the Grand Lodge might be curtailed)—and tortures our innocent remonstrances, thereanent, into evidences of *egotism* and such like forbidden motives. Was he *poking fun* at us? or did he really believe, that a youth, who left the State before he was twelve years old, and whose only masonic *act* before

his departure was, as a hoodwinked boy, to assist in the drawings of a Lottery in aid of the Masonic Hall at Augusta—could imagine himself a missing light in Georgia's masonic horizon?

Our brother got off a few Latin quotations in the annexed paragraph, and possibly that may account for his apparently cruel attack on this *native* but long exiled Georgian. The annexed extract will sufficiently explain the attack complained of, viz:

"All that Brother Beers says in praise of Brother Blackshear, we heartily endorse, and would add more; but we can not but admire at the *naivete* with which he favors us with his opinion that the Masonic lights of Georgia have waned, and are almost extinct since *he* left the State. This *is* "*sui generis.*" Surely his "impulses of complaint and censure must be false," or, "*bonus dormitat Homerus.*" 'Tis true, and sad as true, some of our elder lights have been borne on their *beirs* to the bourne of all flesh; but in this our Grand Lodge is not singular. Come and go is the common law of our kind, without respect to Masonic jurisdiction; and we find no difficulty in persuading ourself to believe, that even when all now living, in every jurisdiction, shall have passed away, Masonry will not be left without LIGHT."

But we are comforted, since conscience acquits of any intentional offense, and the Grand Lodge has admitted its error by correcting the evil complained of.

The report under review is very creditable to the writer and the annexed quotation will show how clear and intelligent is his apprehension of the true intent of such deliverances. He says in

CONCLUSION.

"A Report on Correspondence should be the lens by which the inner working, the usage, and sentiment of the Craft in the various Jurisdictions are brought nearer and made clearer to the view of the brethren for whom it is prepared—provoking examination of the doubtful, emulation of the good, and avoidance of the bad. Such, in a degree, we have attempted to make this. * * * * * *

GRAND OFFICERS:

M. W. Brother James M. Mobley, re-elected.....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother J. Emmett Blackshear, re-elected.....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges.....279

IDAHO.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of the Territory of Idaho, commenced its annual communication, at Boise City, on Tuesday, September the 10th, A. D. 1878.

Present and presiding, M. W. Grand Master E. A. Stephenson. Nine (of the eleven) Chartered Lodges represented.

The business of the session varied but little from the usual routine of Grand Lodge work.

One Lodge, Pioneer No. 4, according to the adopted report of the committee on jurisprudence, had ceased to be useful to the Craft, and the withdrawal of its charter was recommended.

The financial reports indicate prosperity in that direction, and we note that this Grand Lodge has an Orphan fund of $5,197 96.

The Grand Master's address, which is a very creditable document, announces the death (killed by the Indians on the 8th of June, 1878) of

OLIVER HAZARD PURDY,

P. G. Senior Warden and P. G. Secretary. He is spoken of as a zealous and accomplished Mason—a brave man and faithful to all trusts.

Grand Master Stephenson appreciates the true objects and characteristics of Masonry, and his address abounds in eloquent appeals to the Craft to be faithful in promoting its lasting interests.

In the annexed paragraph he judiciously combines encouragement with admonition:

If I did not know how strongly men become attached to Masonry and how zealously they labor for its promotion, I should be surprised to see so many representatives of the subordinate Lodges present to-day. Many of you have travelled long journeys of hundreds of miles, over rugged and almost impassable mountains, spending your money in attending the Grand Lodge, instead of employing your time at home at your usual vocations. In the all-absorbing rush after money at the present day, religious and moral institutions are neglected; patriotism has become almost an empty sound; men seek public places merely to fill their pockets; and governments are converted into new combinations to gather money from the people to distribute to partisan favorites. Palaces abounding in every luxury, fill the imaginations of men; and silks and diamonds, and splendid equipages dazzle the visions of women. But we have come here to-day because we feel that there are jewels of greater value, and more imperishable than gold, or silver, or bank notes. You are laboring for the promotion of an institution that has lived to see the hoardings of the miser scattered to the winds; the palaces of the rich crumble into dust, and the wealth of empires to perish. We labor to promote virtue and to alleviate the sufferings of the destitute and the wretched, and yet, because we think proper to assemble quietly to ourselves, instead of

parading our works of charity in public meetings, there are fanatics claiming to be saints who denounce and perhaps would burn us had they the power,—but Freemasonry will live and flourish after all such demagogues and hypocrites are dead and forgotten.

A creditable report on

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Accompanies these proceedings, written by Brother A. Heed, Chairman. He reviews the proceedings of 50 Grand Lodges, giving brief but kindly notice to each. Alabama report for 1877 is suitably noticed.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. E. A. Stephenson (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Charles Himrod (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

ILLINOIS.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Illinois, convened in its 39th grand annual communication, in Chicago, on Tuesday, the 1st day of October, A. D. 1878.

M. W. Grand Master Joseph Robbins presided and opened, in Ample Form, a Grand Lodge comprising, in addition to its permanent constituents of Grand and Past Grand Officers and Grand Representatives, the representatives of 628 chartered lodges.

The proceedings are, as usual, both voluminous and interesting.

The Grand Master's annual address is an executive message abounding in clear, concise and forcible statements of the matters claiming his attention. Its completeness, however, is somewhat marred by a careless blunder of the *binder*, (in our copy,) whereby the address is closed abruptly at page 32, and *several pages of the report on correspondence* substituted for the closing periods of the Grand Master's deliverance. The opening sentence of his address is, to our taste, the most faulty of all, in that it borrows from ecclesiastical rhetoric a figure inelegant in itself, and repugnant to Masonic conceptions of Deity, viz.:

"Another year has been strung on His eternal rosary, in whose presence we now pause with bended heads and uplifted hearts, acknowledging His gracious favor in the past, and invoking for the future the sustaining and guiding power of His mighty arm."

His allusions to the death of Past Grand Master George E. Lounsbury are exceedingly appropriate and just, as are also his acknowledgments of the kind and fraternal acts of the Brethren of Colorado to the deceased

while an invalid sufferer among them, closing only with his burial service.

He announces the failure, and resignation of the Grand Treasurer, by which some $15,000 00 of Grand Lodge funds were endangered, and probably half of that amount was eventually lost, causing, for the time being, serious financial embarrassments.

The Grand Master discusses the rule forbidding Lodge participation in funeral processions under control of other organizations, and answers objections to his ruling, thus:

A refusal to grant a dispensation to a lodge to join the funeral procession of one of its members, who, at his own request, was buried by an Odd-Fellow's lodge, of which he was also a member, brought me a letter from a zealous and intelligent Past Master, and because I presume it to have reflected a feeling more or less widespread in the Fraternity, I give here that portion of my reply which indicates the rule governing my action:

"The rule is that the lodge should not appear—as a lodge—on funeral occasons unless it appears for the purpose of Masonic labor, of which the rites of Masonic sepulture are a part. It bars no Mason from attending the funeral of a brother who is not buried with our services On the contrary, unless the teachings of Masonry have been lost on its members, they ought to be more ready than others to honor the memory of one of their number by their individual presence at the funeral, and especially in a case of this kind where it is known that the deceased especially desired their presence, although he did not desire to be buried with Masonic rites.

"To you, and to others it oppears, my decision that a rule forbids a lodge to appear on a funeral occasion, except for the performance of the burial rites, seems to have been prompted by the fear that the dignity of the Fraternity would suffer if the lodge was not accorded the 'first place,' and the rule itself to be rooted in the phariseeism which says, 'Stand aside, I am holier than thou!'

"Of this it is sufficient to say that the rule is older than any of the organizations of an imitative character that have adopted forms of burial service of their own; and it is difficult to see how an assumption of superiority over the poor publican of the comparison could be imputed to the pharisee at a time when the poor publican did not exist." * *

* * * * * * * * *

He briefly alludes to the condition of the Craft under the head of

WORK AND INSTRUCTION:

Judging from my own observations, and from the evidence afforded by the reports of the District Deputies, the continued depression of business has had its legitimate effect, and the year now closing will prove not to have been one of general activity among the lodges. In addition to the causes of comparative inactivity which lie so near the surface as to be recognized at once by the most superficial observer, it should be remem-

bered that the measure of normal growth in a lodge is not to be found in the amount of work and rate of increase which marked the decade previous to the one now passing. After the turmoil, the excitement, the ceaseless activity of that eventful period must come a period of reaction, for the demand for rest was imperative. During such periods men are, relatively speaking, disinclined to move unless compelled to; and this inertia affects all organized and associated life. Time is required to reach the point--somewhere between these two extremes—where normal activity reigns. For this all institutions must wait, and none can better afford to wait than Masonry.

I infer an increased interest in the matter of ritualistic instruction from the increase of applications for commissions to lecture, over the previous year when only two were appointed.

He discusses at some length and very ably the propriety of recognizing the Grand Orient of Spain, and as overtures of similar character are pending in our Grand Dodge, we give a portion of his reason for refusing the recognition claimed:

The so-called Masonry of Spain is what is known as the "Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite," whose governing head is a body known as the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the Thirty-Third Degree, and of this body all other bodies composing the Grand Orient are dependents. Among these dependent bodies is the "Grand Lodge," nominally the governing body of Symbolic or Blue Masonry. It is a Grand Lodge only in name, having no attribute of sovereignty, and destitute even of the first attribute of independence—the right to choose its own rulers. The Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council is *ex officio* Grand Master of the Grand Lodge. The office of Grand Commander is non-elective, attaching by right of succession to the Senior Sovereign Grand Inspector General, according to the date of his diploma, and held, with the appendant Grand Mastership, by a life tenure.

With no such emasculated Grand Lodge—however legitimate might have been its origin—could the Grand Lodge of Illinois, sovereign and independent, enter upon relations of equality.

Besides the usual reports of committees, all commending themselves to the writer as valuable Masonic deliverances, we note an Oration, by R. W. Brother Alfred Sample, illustrating the question, "WHY DOES MASONRY LIVE AND PROSPER?" as worthy of special approval. He may be, as he calls himself, an enthusiast, but there is reason as well as "method in his madness."

The report on

CORRESPONDENCE

Was made by Brother Theo. T. Gurney, for committee—his third annual report—and it is in full keeping with the excellent tone and standard of its predecessors. His report includes Alabama proceedings of

1877, and a full review of all American Grand Lodges. Brother Gurney is quite pronounced in opposition to some of the rulings of our committee on jurisprudence of 1877; for instance our committee reported in reference to one of P. G. M. Wilson's decisions thus; "That a woman who has been divorced from her husband is not a competent witness against him in a Masonic Tribunal, as to matters or things which transpired during coverture," the committee recommend an exception in cases of *injuries to her person.*

To this Brother G. responds:

Then, if a woman, divorced, knows that her former husband is guilty of murder, arson, larceny, and a score of other crimes committed during coverture, she is not a competent witness! There is a constant tendency to encumber our *spiritual* codes, with the technicalities and practices of the courts, and sooner or later, if persisted in, will destroy the simplicity and Masonic character of our jurisprudence. Where are the grounds for the exception made by the committee? Please give us the reason, from a *Masonic standpoint*, why this woman's testimony is not as creditable in cases arising during coverture, as after?

He does not approve of legal technicalities as applied to Masonic jurisprudence. Is he right or not? We are half inclined to agree with him.

He gives a timely note of admonition in the following intelligent and well expressed suggestions, viz:

The material interests of Masonry ebb and flow with the general financial conditions of society. Not only this, but its practical ethics are not ordinarily in advance of the sentiment of the period. There seems to be a tendency in all organizations to be in sympathy with the general current of life's activities and social surroundings; and it is only when a people have found the maximum of regrets for the past, and stand amid the ruins of unattainable aspirations, that they are disposed to recognize the fact, that the harmonies of benevolent life cannot be maintained, except by sincere devotion to the central figure of all ethical and *beneficent inspiration.*

Masonry, with other human agencies of a like character, has been diverted from its normal relations to humanity, by being in too active sympathy with an unpardonable strife for considerations foreign to its principles and declared purposes. Lodges have been authorized without regard (by their projectors) for the real interests of the Craft, resulting too frequently in a development of personal ambitions, strife for novelties, ostentatious charities, halls and paraphernalia, that imposing expenditures and unnatural display, in and out of the lodge, should be an element in the competitive race for numbers and notoriety. The consequences have been, that we have suffered alike with theology and politics by contact with that loose sense of moral obligation that has been characteristic of the present decade.

Brother Gurney, we note, was called to the Grand East, and he very wisely relegated Brother Robbins to the chair Reportorial, so wisely and

efficiently filled by him for years prior to *his* election as Grand Master. Now the late CHAIRMAN is Grand Master and the Past Grand Master is the chairman-correspondent.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Theo. T. Gurney (elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Jno. F. Burrill (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges	692
Number of U. D. Lodges	1

INDIANA.

We have the report of the proceedings of "the sixty-first annual meeting" of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of INDIANA, convened at INDIANAPOLIS on Tuesday, the 28th day of May A. D. 1878. Present M. W. Grand Master Andrew J. Hay, with Grand and Past Grand officers, the representatives of 498 (of the 535) subordinate lodges, and a large number of visiting brethren.

The year's doings and legislative wants of the Craft, are presented by the Grand Master in a long and able annual address of thirty-three pages length.

The Grand Lodge debt has been for years a fruitful source of trouble in this jurisdiction, and the Grand Master says of it that it "has been to me a fruitful source of anxiety, and the cause of more care and concern than all the other burthens of office, although these last have been by no means light."

The debt alluded to consists of $75,000 00 of bonded obligations, maturing in 1886, carrying $6,700 00 of annually accruing interest, and nearly $29,000 of unsecured liabilities—pressing for settlement—all the result of the ambition which hurried our Brethren of Indiana into premature efforts to build a Masonic Temple—of wood and stone. History here but repeats itself—oh! that our Lodges—Grand and Subordinate—would but consider and mark the end of DEBT, which is discord and disaster continually. Go in debt if ruin is your object; keep out of it if you desire harmony and prosperity.

He announces a decrease of membership, but welcomes the fact as a subject of congratulation, which would be very proper if the decrease is attributable mainly to the causes assigned by him, viz:

Two causes have doubtless contributed to this result—the financial stringency which so seriously effects all the Western and Southern States, and the increased vigilance of our lodges in regard to the acceptance of the material presented to them for inspection and initiation.

But how far has the burden of debt and its vexations operated against a healthy increase?

His eulogy of our late Brother P. G. M. Hazelrigg, known and respected by all true Masons, is just and true, and we adopt his record given :

IN MEMORIAM.

"There is a Prince and great man fallen this day in Israel."

The saddest event occurring during the year just closed was the death of our Brother, Past Grand Master Hazelrigg. Harvey G. Hazelrigg, Past Grand Master, died at his residence at the station of Hazelrigg, near Lebanon, Boone county, in this State, on the fifteenth day of December, 1877.

The masonic life of our brother was full and rounded ; he filled every station from that of a private member to Grand Master to the best of his ability, serving with credit to himself and honor to the fraternity.

Our brother was a man of marked individuality ; hypocrisy and every description of meanness he despised and condemned in no measured terms. Considerations of birth, riches or position in themselves he never respected ; he looked at the *merits* of the individual, not at the circumstances in which accident or society had placed him. He was open and frank in all his actions, caring for the favorable opinion of the good alone. He was independent, self-willed—even obstinate, if you please, yet he always strove to be right. He never defended a position, nor adopted an opinion, unless he felt it to be correct, but having once made up his mind he must be convinced of his error before he yielded. In a long and intimate acquaintance with our brother, extending over a period of twenty years, knowing him in all the relations of parent, citizen and brother mason, I have always found him a kind-hearted, liberal, charitable gentleman, and a zealous mason.

Action on the recognition of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico and that of New South Wales was deferred until the next annual session.

The Grand Lodge renewed its non-intercourse resolutions of 1870 against the GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE, though it seems to us that the Grand Master's address directing attention to a new and aggravated offence against masonic principles, called for a special edict suited to the importance of her recent infidel departure from the "Landmarks." In 1870 she had invaded only the sovereign territory of other Grand Lodges; now she has, with unholy hands, attempted to wrest the scepter of government from the GRAND MASTER OF THE UNIVERSE !

NO REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Brother Robert Van Valzah (elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother Wm. H. Smythe (elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Subordinate Lodges (Chartered).....535
Number of Subordinate Lodges (U. D.)..... 5

INDIAN TERRITORY.

We have before us the proceedings of the 4th Grand annual communication of the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory, held at McAlester, on Tuesday, the 5th day of November, A. D. 1878.

Present—M. W. Grand Master, J. S. Murrow, and we presume (tho' it is not stated) a quorum of Grand Lodge constituents.

The Grand Master, in his address, announces the death of Dr. T. J. Bond, Grand Treasurer, of whom he speaks in terms of glowing praise, saying, in conclusion, that—

Dr. Bond was *perhaps* the most universally beloved man in the Indian Territory. His virtues were legion.

The address gives a satisfactory report as regards "FOREIGN RELATIONS," but is evidently dissatisfied and anxious, as the annexed extract will show, about home matters, "e. g.":

INTERNAL CONDITION.

While our foreign relations are pleasant and fraternal, I am sorry to say our internal condition is not good. A few of our Lodges are not in peace and harmony. There have been and still are, in two or three of the Lodges, jealousies, envies, back-bitings, wranglings that are disgraceful and will result in ruin unless strict and severe discipline is enforced. There is a class of reckless white adventurers in this Territory. Some of these have perhaps been Masons somewhere; perhaps expelled, at best irregular and unreliable. These are troubling our Lodges no little. Again there is a spirit of selfishness, prompted by ambition, a kind of rule or ruin principle, directly contrary to the spirit of Masonry, that has done great harm. In one or two Lodges an unlawful and shameful seeking after the offices in the Lodge at the time of the regular annual election, was almost equal to the political canvassing in the States. Such things ought not to be, my brethren. They should be severely denounced *now*, in our infancy, that we may grow up in better habits. But I am not done scolding. Investigations in two or three cases have been made to correct the wrong and uphold the right, and instead of brethren being fair, candid and true, as becomes the sons of *light*, there has been

unfairness, a want of candor, suppression of truth, taking advantage of technicalities, browbeating, bulldozing, anything almost, to cover up wrong and prevent justice, right—*Masonry*—from being vindicated. It is a very unpleasant duty, but I feel compelled at this meeting to lay before you the condition of at least two of the Lodges, and trust that you will meet the cases fair and square. A good, healthy dose of discipline just now, my brethren, will do our Grand Lodge and Masonry more good than anything I know of.

We had hoped for better things, and still hope that the disease will yield to treatment. The remedy should be applied in *heroic* doses.

The work of the Grand Lodge was conducted with dignity and with approved promptness and intelligence.

The Grand Lodge of New Mexico was recognized.

We note the gratifying episode, or incident, whereby Alpha Lodge, heretofore bound to Kansas, but recently released from its original fealty by the recognition resolutions of its Sovereign, tendered its adhesion to the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory, and was openly welcomed as the 12th constituent of the new organization.

THE REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE

Was interrupted by the death of Brother J. B. Jones, Chairman, but completed by Brother H. F. Buckner and Grand Master Murrow.

It is a brief but very readable report, and the greatest objection we can urge to it is, that it does not name Alabama—neither this nor the preceding reports include a review of our Grand Lodge proceedings. Why?

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Brother J. S. Murrow (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother W. A. McBride (elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges.....12

IOWA.

The latest report from this Grand Jurisdiction contained the proceedings of the annual communication held June 4th, 1878, which were reviewed in our last report.

We regret the absence of the proceedings for 1879.

KANSAS.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Kansas convened its (23d) twenty-third annual communication at Atchison, on the 16th day of October, A. D. 1878.

M. W. Grand Master, John Guthrie, presided, and opened, in Ample Form, a Grand Lodge composed of "representatives of a constitutional number of Lodges for the transaction of business." We have been unable to ascertain from the minutes how many Lodges *were* represented, but judging from those reported as contributing dues, the number was about 80—less than half of the constituent Lodges.

The Grand Master's address is able and comprehensive. We quote with approval his (timely) remarks on

MASONIC ELECTIONS.

I desire to call your attention to one evil that too often enters into the government of Masonic Bodies, both supreme and subordinate, a disposition of well meaning but ambitious brethren to enter into combinations to secure rank and preferment. It may be pardonable for the citizen to adopt the usual methods of politicians as a means to securing place and emoluments in the government of the State ; but such methods are reprehensible in the highest degree in a Masonic Lodge.

The highest trust committed to you as the representatives of our Order in this Jurisdiction is the choice of Grand Officers for the ensuing year. These officers should be chosen for their meritorious worth, and the fact that a brother wishes the post of honor, or that he resides in some supposed favorable locality, should not influence a single vote. I have been impressed with the conviction that it is always a safe rule in choosing officers to vote against Masonic politicians. The brethren of a Lodge, unembarrassed by the importunities of ambitious candidates, will usually make a wise choice in the selection of officers. And the brother who by his industry serves the Craft well and faithfully, will finally secure his reward. The great principles of our Order and the laws laid down in our Ancient Constitutions in regard to these practices are so well understood by the older and more experienced members of the Craft, that there is need only of calling your attention to them to be appreciated and faithfully practiced by our brethren.

Our Order is designed for higher and nobler purposes than that of gratifying the ambition of men, and the Mason who would prostitute the Order to promote his business or gratify his ambition is unworthy the fraternal regard of the Craft.

He made one decision which called forth a dissenting report from his Committee on Jurisprudence, and we concur in their objections. We quote the report as stating with sufficient explicitness the decision objected to, viz :

That we recommend the approval of the reported decisions of the M. W. Grand Master, excepting the one relating to the right of a Past Master to succeed to all the rights, powers and privileges of the Master in the absence of the three principal officers of the Lodge. Concerning this we say, that the general rule is that Past Masters, as such, possess no rights and privileges in a Master Mason's Lodge not possessed by any Master Mason, except those specifically granted them by their particular Grand Lodge or extended to them by courtesy. The Standing Regulation referred to by the M. W. Grand Master, was a right specifically granted to Past Masters by this Grand Lodge, but we are of the opinion that by section 44 of the Constitution adopted in 1866, the Standing Regulation of 1863 was repealed, and the action of this Grand Lodge in 1874, approving the decision of that year, which is also referred to by the M. W. Grand Master, confirms us in the opinion that the general rule above stated is the law of this Jurisdiction.

He is quite pronounced in his denunciations of the Grand Orient of France, in which he was fully sustained by the Grand Lodge in the adoption of the following resolutions reported by the Committee on Correspondence, viz:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Kansas views with surprise and profound regret the unwarranted action taken by the Grand Orient of France in eliminating from her affirmation of Masonic principles, the solemn declaration of a sincere belief in God and the immortality of the soul, such action being in direct opposition to the fundamental principles of Freemasonry as taught and believed among us and being in opposition to the Ancient Charges and Landmarks of the Fraternity.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge in consequence of the late action of the Grand Orient of France does hereby re-affirm the action heretofore had in the severing of all Masonic intercourse with the said Grand Orient of France.

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge will not recognize as true and lawful Masons any person hailing from Lodges under the Grand Orient of France, and all Lodges in this Jurisdiction are therefore directed not to admit as visitors any such persons.

The finances of the Grand Lodge are in a sound condition. A special report on CORRESPONDENCE discusses at some length the controversy between the Grand Jurisdictions of Scotland and Quebec, censuring the former for unwarranted aggressions upon the sovereign jurisdiction of the latter. We cannot assent to all of their conclusions, for we think Quebec is not altogether blameless in some aspects of the controversy. For instance, did she not refuse to accept recognition from Scotland upon the terms granted by the Grand Lodge of England to that of Canada and accepted without complaint by the latter?

The terms of recognition proposed in both instances merely retained control of the four Lodges chartered directly by the mother Grand

Lodges, and left it optional with such subordinates to change or continue their allegiance at pleasure. It seems to us that what Canada could accept without dishonor, Quebec (her daughter) might have, at least, submitted to without wrangling. Both had, too, the advantage of local association and interest to help them in securing the favor of the four Lodges retaining allegiance to the old Grand Bodies. We are inclined to view this controversy as "a tempest in a teapot," likely to be increased rather than diminished by outside interposition. We hope and expect a full and satisfactory settlement as soon as the parties to the controversy can reason with and be charitable towards each other. Stubbornness is a *Scotch Rite*, and yet they are essentially true and intelligent Masons, yielding to none in unswerving devotion to the mystic *art* and its fraternal ties. Don't scold, Brother Brown, our *lecture* is ended. Forgive our rashness in attempting to criticise your opinions.

Honors to Brother Albert Pike, S. G. C. of the S. C. of the A. and A. S. Rite.

The following is the minute recording the reception of this distinguished and invited guest, viz :

Brother M. S. Adams, on the part of the Committee on Invitation, introduced and with a few well-chosen remarks presented Brother Albert Pike, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council of the A. and A. S. Rite of the southern jurisdiction of the United States of America. This illustrious Craftsman is the most distinguished Masonic author and historian of the present age ; a savant lawyer, poet, and in addition to being the highest Masonic dignitary in the southern jurisdiction, he is Provincial Grand Prior of the Great Priory of Canada, of the united Religious and Military Orders of the Temple and of St. John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes and Malta, Provincial Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Royal Order of Scotland in the United States, and an honorary member of nearly every Supreme Council in the world. He favored the Grand Lodge with an address of over one hour on the "Symbolism of Masonry." During which time he held his hearers completely spellbound by the matchless power of his eloquence, replete with beautiful imagery and instruction in the hidden meanings of the Mystic Art, and delivered with the peculiar grace and deep earnestness for which he is so deservedly famed. The worthy Craftsmen of Kansas will not soon forget this rich intellectual treat, which was to every listener "a feast of reason and a flow of soul," pure and unadulterated.

Brother John H. Brown, for the Committee, (and not as Grand Secretary) presented the

Report on Correspondence,

Which fully sustains his reputation as a reviewer. He reports on the

proceedings of 54 Grand Lodges, giving to each due and fraternal consideration, and yet compressing his report within due bounds. Oh! that the POWER "would the giftie gi'e us" to do the like ourself! Alabama doings—report of 1877—are reviewed with acceptable care and candor from the Grand Master's address to the closing work, including a complimentary notice of and quotation from the report of Brother Titcomb, Chairman of Committee on Suspensions, Expulsions, and Appeals.

GRAND OFFICERS:

M. W. Brother Edwin D. Hillyer (elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother John H. Brown (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges.....166

KENTUCKY.

We welcome the 79th annual report of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Kentucky, containing the proceedings of its annual communication convened in Louisville on Tuesday, October the 22d, A. D. 1878.

Grand Master Campbell H. Johnson opened in Ample Form a Grand Lodge comprising a large attendance of official members and Lodge representatives. How many of the latter were present, or how many Chartered Lodges owe allegiance to the jurisdiction, the Grand Secretary has given us no ready means of estimating.

We note a very decided improvement in the typographical make up of recent Kentucky reports. The one under review is not only unexceptionable in that respect, but is adorned with a frontispiece portraying the manly features of Grand Master Johnson.

Thanks for this introduction, even through the imperfect agency of an engraving.

The Grand Master's address is an able message, abounding in evidences of a laborious year of service.

His decisions are numerous—52 in all—and when we consider the thought, research and letter writing incident to their preparation and delivery, we can readily estimate the labor involved.

We quote two of his decisions as especially pertinent to questions claiming attention in this jurisdiction, viz:

A candidate for the Second or Third Degree can not require charges to be preferred against him in case of rejection, and force the objecting brother to give his reasons for so objecting. The ballot in each degree

is as sacred as in the First ; and no one has a right to question the motives of any brother in casting his ballot. The candidate so rejected has the right to dimit if clear of the books, and no charges stand against him.

The violation of the chastity of a *female* is a Masonic offense, and should be punished as such. An offense against Masonry is a violation of the laws of God or of the country, therefore we are not only bound to respect those within the pale, *but all.*

The address complains of an abuse which we hope is not ineradicable, or generally prevalent, for it strikes a deadly blow at Grand Lodge power. Is, indeed, revolt against Masonic government and usage :

INCORPORATION OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

I beg leave to submit to the Grand Lodge the propriety of forbidding Subordinate Lodges from incorporating themselves independent of the Grand Lodge. This custom has become so prevalent in Kentucky that in any serious question of emergency it will be impossible, or at least extremely difficult, for the Grand Lodge to maintain necessary supremacy. I am firmly of the opinion, that had this been enforced years ago a vast amount of the serious complications of my term of office would have been avoided. The opinion of that sound jurist, Judge John L. Lewis, Past Grand Master of New York, and formerly of the Supreme Bench of that State, was long ago given in opposition to the practice. In 1867 Most Worshipful William Silas Whitehead, Grand Master of New Jersey, gave the following reasons for opposing it, and asking his Grand Lodge to forbid the practice. He says : "I have lately given this subject some examination, and the conclusion to which I have arrived is, that the incorporation of Masonic bodies is subversive of the true principles of Masonic government, and inimical to the prosperity and perpetuity of the institution. It sweeps away the appellate jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge and Grand Master, and subordinates the Masonic to the civil authorities upon questions strictly Masonic."

Here we feel disposed to leave our Kentucky Brethren to pursue the routine work of the Lodge in their own skillful way, and cease our inspection of its current labors that we may rejoice with them in the happy completion of "that great and glorious work" in which they had been so long and so often hindered by obstacles seemingly insurmountable. We have watched their struggles in the past with alternate hope and fear, and now that success has crowned their persistent efforts to establish the Home, we rejoice with exceeding joy at their triumphant vindication of Masonic charity and ability to conduct and sustain a benevolent enterprise, so grand in conception and difficult of achievement, that we gaze with growing wonder at its successful achievement.

Thank God that "associated benevolence" is not forbidden to Masons, and also for the great LANDMARK our Kentucky Brethren have thus estab-

lished to direct the army of progress and encourage its doubting pioneers.

The Grand Master in his address thus announces the completion of

THE HOME :

At no time in the history of Kentucky Masonry has there been a more glorious moment, and the heart of every Mason in this jurisdiction should well up with pride, not only that he is a Mason *tried* and *true*, *trusted* and *honored*, but that he is a *Kentucky Mason*, The Temple—"The Home"—is completed! Great and joyous tidings to the Craft—

To the Power Almighty, who ever has guided
The tribes of old Israel, exalting their fame;
To Him who hath governed our hearts undivided,
Let's send forth our voices to praise His great name.

There is no more occasion for level or plumb-line,
For trowel or gavel, for compass or square;
Our works they are finished, *The Home is completed*,
And we shall be greeted as workmen most rare.

This magnificent building, like Solomon's Temple, has occupied more than seven years in its construction, and has engaged so many workmen, and been directed by so many *wise and celebrated* Craftsmen, may, like that celebrated Temple, give way to the lapse of time, the ruthless hand of ignorance, or the devastation of war, but the holy purposes for which it was erected will indelibly engrave it upon the hearts of the Fraternity, and its praises will be transmitted from generation to generation, and thus it will prove itself an indestructible monument to the reality of Masonic charity and the benevolence of Kentucky Masons.

The Board of Directors, after years of arduous labor, are now rewarded by seeing the fruits of their labor in a completed charity not equaled in all the land. Their labor has been severe, but their reward great; and the hearts of the widows and orphans now sheltered, protected, clad, and fed under the protecting roof, and the multitude of such who may follow them, will give honor to their names, and through them bless and praise the Order that has provided such munificent comforts for those who are left homeless and houseless.

Later in these proceedings we have a full account of the "Dedicatory services of the Masonic Widows and Orphans' Home," of which ceremonial it is said that:

The Masonic Widows and Orphans' Home was dedicated October 23d with nothing lacking in the programme to render the occasion one of the most imposing that ever transpired in the history of Masonry in Kentucky. A great crowd of people, including several hundred visiting Masons from all parts of the State, were present, and the exercises were of extraordinary interest.

It was indeed a notable day, a day of jubilee! We have enjoyed the

events of that celebration, by proxy as it were, in reading the published reports of them. We are especially pleased with the eloquent addresses delivered by G. M. Johnson, Gov. McCreary, Col. W. C. P. Breckinridge, and others. But we must desist, for want of space, from further comment on this topic.

THE REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE

Is from the pen of Brother Robert Morris, P. G. M., who returns to duty in this department after a recess of just 20 years—his last report was made in 1858—having in the mean time served with credit as M. W. Grand Master. He confesses to the tremor of advancing years, apostrophises the memory of the great and good (naming many of them) "whose names are passing from the memory of most; they can never pass from his"—"and their whispers, through the midnight hour encourage him to undertake once more this pleasant though mighty work."

He finds the "proceedings mostly repetitions of those to which, in the past generation he was accustomed to," and says a word of critical censure to Grand Masters, Grand Secretaries, and committees on Correspondence; indeed to all officials, for conditions (sameness) the reverse of those which greeted Rip Van Winkle, after *his short nap*, with startling evidences of change. Fiction treats of sudden changes in human affairs, while history repeats the same old story of like producing like, continually. If our Brother had, on his return to duty, found all the improvements and changes he seems to have expected, possibly his wonder might have been increased, for then Masonry, *perfected*, would have been clothed in her *shining* robes, in celebration of the millenium of her redemption from human faults and foibles.

Brother Morris give us a very interesting review of many American Grand Lodges, and adds useful information as to the doings of several European Grand Bodies. He was commissioned by Grand Master Campbell H. Johnson to visit the Grand Lodges of Europe for the purpose of "proposing a more general dissemination of the system of Grand Lodge Representatives. He visited the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland, and appears to have been welcomed as an honored guest by all, receiving many personal courtesies and favors from the Grand Officers.

The review of Alabama proceedings, report of 1877, contained in this report is quite full and is very satisfactory.

He approves Grand Master Pillans' decisions, except as to the second viz: "Officers, derelict in the matter of dues, may be suspended the same as private Masons," and says of that ruling:

Applying the square of ancient law to these decisions, we see no objections to any save the second and sixth. To suspend *the Master* of a Lodge for N. P. D. would make, to say the least, a ludicrous condition of things, which will scarcely bear examination.

Of the sixth he suggests the *ballot*, instead of voting by roll call, etc. That decision, however, merely announced the law of this jurisdiction, a law as old as the Grand Lodge.

We give Brother Morris'

CONCLUSION:

Thus we close our labor of love. It has been, in all respects, a pleasant task. As a correspondent writes—himself one of the sharpest blades of the reportorial fraternity—"I enjoy the work; I like the freedom and irresponsibilities of the position where one can write without feeling the constant necessity for weighing words under which a Grand Master labors. It is a nice thing to feel at liberty to *hit a head* whenever you can see one, and this a reporter can do!"

Your Chairman, while indulging in this freedom, has ever kept in mind, during the preparation of this report, that his private opinions upon Masonic questions are subordinate to the rulings of his Grand Lodge. He has endeavored to study urbanity and gentle consideration of the views of others. Having suffered in past years from harshness and misrepresentation on the part of reporters, he has learned *first*, how much pain they give to the persons at whom they are aimed, and *second*, how little influence they have in moulding the opinions of others. He has learned, he believes, *charity*, and if in anything said in this lengthy report, anything illiberal or uncharitable can be seen, he prays the reader to take his pencil and *dele* it, as the writer himself would have done had he seen it before sending it out to the world.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Brother Thos. S. Petit (elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother Hiram Bassett (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges (estimated)..... 507

LOUISIANA.

The 67th annual grand communication of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, convened in New Orleans, February 10th, A. D. 1879, completing its work on the 14th, making a session of *five* days.

Sixty Lodges represented.

M. W. Grand Master Samuel James Powell opened the Grand Lodge in Ample Form. His annual address is able, and we extract some por-

tions likely to interest our readers. Of the conditions then surrounding them, he says :

The circumstances that mark this anniversary of our coming together are not as propitious as we could desire. A year ago we left this sacred place filled with high hopes for the improvement of the general weltare of our people, as well as for the advancement of Masonry. But these hopes have failed of fulfillment. The material interests of our country have suffered disastrous reverses—every industry has been seriously hindered—a pestilence has been abroad, and our friends and brethren have fallen around us like leaves in wintry weather. Perhaps the failure of our hopes are only commensurate with our failure of duty, and of our forgetfulness of Him, in whom we profess to put our trust. Thank God, while he has afflicted he has not destroyed ; and we are again in annual communication, with new hopes, and new resolutions.

In speaking of the epidemic of 1878 after rehearsing some of its terrible incidents, he says :

It is not my purpose to describe the details of suffering, misery, and want, that followed in the train of this dreadful scourge. Nay, rather, I would draw a veil over the scenes of horror, and retain nothing save the memories of the dead, and the noble charities and heroic deeds of philanthropy it called forth.

At first our membership was singularly exempt from attacks, and so confident were our brethren that they could take care of our own household, that I persistently declined proffered assistance from other jurisdictions. But our hopes in this direction soon failed. The fever-fiend, in its blind fury sought indiscriminately whom it might destroy, and our brethren and their families shared the common fate.

As soon as our necessities were known, liberal donations accompanied with words of compassionate sympathy came from our brethren in other jurisdictions. Material assistance without stint or measure, was freely and voluntarily furnished us, and in a few days funds to meet all our wants were at our disposal. So lavish and continuous were these donations, that I felt it my duty to send a telegram, through the Associated Press, to all the Grand Lodges in the United States to cease their generous contributions.

To these generous brethren, who so promptly came to our relief in the hour of affliction, I now tender the grateful acknowledgments and the heartfelt thanks of the brethren of this jurisdiction. Their unmeasured generosity and unstinted beneficence will live forever in our memories, and be cherished with the truest affections of our hearts. Their timely and munificent charities have strengthened the bond of fellowship and cemented anew our hearts to them in a closer communion, and they will stand forever as monuments to the sacredness of our fraternal relations, and to show to the world how Masons love each other.

The Grand Master is satisfied with the general condition of the Craft, and says that amid all the trials of the year, even in sickness and financial adversity, "they have maintained their integrity, and peace and harmony prevail."

The financial affairs of this Grand Lodge, alluded to in our last report, has not materially improved. Their valuable property yields but a limited income, and the "per capita" relief assessments ordered in 1878 does not appear to have met a cordial response from some Lodges.

Troubles of that description, like some other ghosts, will not down "at the bidding" of Grand Officers or Grand Lodges. The way *out* of debt is a rugged path full of intricacies and difficulties.

We sympathise with R. W. Brother Grand Secretary Batchelor in the multiplicity of accounts he is compelled to figure over in manipulating the Grand Lodge property and revenue interests. The financial statements alone fill 35 pages of his report. Too much *business* of that description! Why a bank would require fewer figures to state its operations. When they get out of trouble, in that direction, as we hope and believe they will ere long do, then Dr. B. will be entitled to a diploma as "master of finances," as well as "master of dispatches." There is a good time coming, Brethren of Louisian, take advantage of it and throw off the shackles of debt.

Brother Geo. H. Braughn and his associates of the committee has given us in this volume another excellent

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

But we regret to see he announces his farewell. The new committee consists of Brother R. W. Wm. Ritchie Whitaker, R. W. Ernest Morel, and W. Wesley E. Lawrence, worthy successors of able predecessors.

The review of Brother Braughn embraces the proceedings of 48 American Grand Lodges, including those of Alabama—report of 1877—together with those of 13 Foreign Grand Bodies—making altogether an exceedingly interesting and instructive report. We think he takes a one-sided view of the controversy between Quebec and Scotland, and will see cause ere long to revoke his extreme censure of the latter. As heretofore intimated in this report we cannot view the action of Scotland in the case alluded to as either a direct or intentional attack on the American theory of Grand Lodge sovereignty, and therefore cannot assent fully to his remark that "the attack on Quebec's rights assails our own." Before denouncing, let us wait for fuller developments.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Edwin Marks (elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. J. C. Batchelor (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

MAINE.

The 60th Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine convened at Portland, May 6th, A. D. 1879.

Present, M. W. Grand Master Edward P. Burnham—169 chartered Lodges (of a total of 180) represented. We note, also, a full attendance of Grand Officers and Grand Representatives.

The Grand Master's Address is a well arranged, good and comprehensive message, giving interesting historical facts, and not neglecting the record of current events. His decisions are few, two only, Nos. 1 and 5, relating to matters of general interest, viz:

1. In referring to the widow and orphans of a mason, we can only mean those who legitimately hold those relations in accordance with the laws of the State.

5. A Lodge can not have two classes of membership, viz: ordinary, and conditional or provisional.

We quote the Grand Master's views on the subject of—

MASONIC RELIEF.

There is a tendency to expect Lodges, and the Grand Lodge, to render considerable material aid in cases of destitution among masons and their families. This arises in part from erroneous ideas imparted by some masons to their families, and by a portion of the masonic speakers and writers, and also from the fact that there are many beneficial societies that make a specialty of paying sick and funeral benefits. We have no such plan. We do not receive the money requisite to the carrying out of the system, and therefore should not be expected, without the means, to perform what we do not promise. The responsibility of our Fraternity is individual, and can not be shifted upon any association."

Nor can we forego the pleasure of reproducing the following portion of the historical record of this address, as it relates to the beginning of masonry in that jurisdiction:

ARMY LODGES OF THE REVOLUTION.

"There were ten of these Lodges, the oldest being St. John's, of New York, 1775. American Union Lodge, of Connecticut, was chartered by the St. John's Grand Lodge in Massachusetts, February 15th, in the year of Salvation, 1776, and was with the army in Connecticut, New York and New Jersey until 1783, the last meeting being held April 23, 1783, when Brother Rose was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. General Washington was a visitor December 27, 1779. Henry Dearborn, afterwards member of Congress from the District of Maine, was a visitor April 7, 1779. John Brooks, afterwards Governor of Massachusetts, was made an Entered Apprentice August 28, 1779. I will give the form of a procession, April 17, 1779: 1. Outside Tyler; 2. Wardens with white rods; 3. Youngest brother with the bag; 4. Brethren by juniority; 5.

W. Master with his rod, the Treasurer on his right hand supporting the Sword of Justice, the Secretary on his left hand supporting the Bible, Square and Compass; 6. Inside Tyler.

"September 9, 1779. Resolved, That the moneys remaining in the treasury of this Lodge, on the 1st day of November next, shall be invested in tickets of the third class of the United States Lottery, the avails of which shall remain in the treasury, to be appropriated to the relief of the poor of the Fraternity or as the Brethren shall agree."

"Washington Army Lodge No. 10, chartered by the Massachusetts Grand Lodge, was organized November 11, 1779, at West Point, New York, Henry Sewall, of Maine, being one of the thirteen charter members. In a list of officers and members, December 8, 1779, are the names of Captain Henry Sewall, Secretary; Captain Moses Greenleaf, Lieutenant Colonel Noah M. Littlefield, Doctor John Wingate, Lieutenant Joseph Tucker."

The Grand Lodge adopted a series of resolutions, reported by Brother Drummond from the Committee on Correspondence, strongly denunciatory of the Grand Lodge of Scotland in the matter of its action towards Quebec. Here again we find our moderate views of that controversy, disapproved by one whose opinions we like not to oppose; yet we still think there need have been no serious controversy between those Grand Bodies had charity and prudence ruled the hour.

Recognition of the Grand Lodge of New South Wales was deferred, but the letter of Grand Master James S. Farwell, of that jurisdiction, containing a long and effective statement of their side of the controversy, is published in extenso—intimating a bias against Scotland in that controversy also.

Brother Drummond, from Committee on Jurisprudence, made an able and instructive report on "the power of a Past Master to open a Lodge and preside therein in the *absence of the Master and Wardens.*" As this subject recurs frequently in the masonic discussions of the day, we reproduce a portion of this report, which we think well worthy of thoughtful consideration.

REPORT.

* * * * * * * * *

"In Anderson's Constitutions, it is said that "in case of sickness, death or necessary absence of the Master, the Senior Warden shall act as Master *pro tempore*, if no Brother is present who has been Master of that Lodge before; for in that case the absent Master's authority reverts to the last Master then present, though he can not act until the said Senior Warden has once congregated the Lodge, or in his absence the Junior Warden."

But in the second edition of Anderson (1738) the regulation just quoted is modified, and it is stated as the law, that in the absence of the Master the Senior Warden "fills the Chair, even though a former Master be present."

It will be observed that both these regulations refer to cases *in which a Warden is present*, and is *limited* to those cases; so that neither of them touch the case of the absence of the Master and both Wardens.

It has been assumed that these regulations relate to both cases, and, therefore, it has been held, that Past Masters can *never* preside save under the authority of the Master or a Warden. But it is very certain that in olden times the idea prevailed, that a Master's authority in some cases reverted to his predecessors.

And your committee, after careful and extended examination, are satisfied that the cases in which a Warden is present, have been confounded with those in which neither Master or Warden is present: and that, according to the ancient law and usage, when a Warden is present, a Past Master can act only under his authority; but that when neither a Master or Warden is present, a Past Master can open the Lodge and preside therein: and, therefore, that the provision of our Constitution in question, is in accordance with the ancient law and usage. We have abundent evidence of this in the old records.

It is evident that, before 1723, it was held that the Past Master had this right, even when the Warden was present, but in that year it was resolved that when a Warden is present, he presides instead of a Past Master.

In the Massachusetts 'Book of Constitutions,' of 1798, while the doctrine, that, when a Warden is present, he must preside, is fully recognized, it is equally as fully recognized, that in the absence of Master and Wardens, a Past Master may open the Lodge; and this provision was continued in the Constitution of that Grand Lodge for about seventy years after 1798.

Precisely the same is found in the Pennsylvania Ahiman Rezon of 1783: in the Virginia Ahiman Rezons of 1791 and 1818: in the Kentucky Constitution of 1818 : and in the Maryland Ahiman Rezon of 1797.

In Dalcho's (South Carolina) Ahiman Rezon of 1807, it is said, "If neither the Master or Wardens are present, the oldest Past Master present takes the Chair." This is repeated in the second edition, published in 1822.

The same rule is recognized in the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of New York of 1789, and those *printed* in 1801, and also *published* in 1815 and 1820.

And in the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, published in 1843, 1846 and 1854.

The precise provision in our Constitution is found in the Constitutions of Massachusetts, in all editions published up to 1866: of Ohio, in the editions of 1820 to 1854, inclusive: of Maryland, adopted in 1823: of Georgia, editions of 1856 and 1859: of Missouri, edition of 1853: and the Regulations of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire adopted in 1830, and those adopted in 1869, provide that, in the absence of the Master and both Wardens, "past officers" may call a special meeting of the Lodge.

We would add that, in Portland Lodge, nearly a hundred years ago, in the absence of the Officers and Past Masters, the members put one of the oldest present into the Chair, and proceeded to transact the business of the Lodge—thus following the provisions of the Constitu-

tions of 1798, and showing that those provisions were in force long before their publication.

In 1849 the question arose in the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, whether a vacancy in the office of Master could be filled by a new election, and the committee consulted Charles W. Moore on the question, and he published an elaborate article in his Magazine (Vol. 8, p. 225) upon the subject. After obtaining his views, the committee reported, and the Grand Lodge decided, that in case of a vacancy in the office of Master, no election can be held, but his place must be filled by the Warden next in rank present, or, in the absence of both, by a Past Master.

Brother Moore, in the article referred to, quotes the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England at that time, which provided that in case of the absence of the Master and Wardens, the immediate Past Master, or, in his absence, the Senior Past Master, shall act as Master.

The Constitutions of the Grand Lodges of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, all provide that in the absence of the Master the immediate Past Master, and in his absence the *Senior* Past Master presides, to the exclusion of the Wardens.

The Constitution of South Carolina of 1847, and that of Montana of 1875, expressly provide that in the absence of the Master and Wardens a Past Master may preside.

We have not had the opportunity of examining the early constitutions of all the older Grand Lodges, but we think we have gone far enough to show that the old law and usage sustain the decision of our M. W. Grand Master, and that the opposite doctrine is a comparatively recent innovation.

Inasmuch as our conclusion is the reverse of the statements of the law in most of the Text Books, we have deemed it important to give our reasons at some length.

Respectfully submitted,

JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,
WILLIAM P. PREBLE,
H. H. DICKEY,
Committee."

In reference to the Cuban controversy, the Grand Lodge

" *Voted*, That action upon the question of recognizing the Grand Lodge of Colon or the Grand Lodge of Cuba, be postponed until the next Annual Communication; and that we hereby fraternally request the Brethren of both organizations to take measures to secure the unity of Freemasonry under one Grand Lodge in that jurisdiction."

We note, as an item of interest and as an example worthy of imitation, that the Grand Lodge of Maine controls, through its 'Trustees of the Charity Fund,' an invested reserve of $18,800, the earnings of which are distributed to the poor of the fraternity not provided for, or inadequately so, by their own lodges.

Brother Josiah H. Drummond's Report on Correspondence is, as its authorship guarantees, full of useful and instructive reading.

He reviews the proceedings of 55 Grand Lodges, including, France

Spain and Cuba. His discussion of the Colon-Cuba controversy is learned as well as exhaustive, and, it seems to us, that his arguments are unanswerable objections to the claims of both contestants, to American recognition.

He gives a brief review of the proceedings of Alabama for 1878, and says (referring especially to the report on correspondence, but which we apply to the general Report), that

"The late date at which these Proceedings are received, preclude us from further notice of this able and interesting report.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Brother Charles J. Collamore (elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother Ira Berry (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges.....179(?)

MANITOBA.

We have the printed report of the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Manitoba for 1878 and 1879.

One, a special communication, was convened December 30th, 1878, in consequence of an act of insubordination on the part of several brethren whose past official positions would seem to forbid such conduct as would authorize the Grand Master's announcement to the emergent Lodge then assembled, that :

You will be called upon to consider and pronounce upon some of the blackest Masonic offences on record, committed by Past Masters and Past Grand Masters, who have violated the fundamental and essential principles and obligations of Freemasonry.

After reading the details as reported, we think he had great reason to denounce the revolutionary acts referred to.

We have neither space nor time to give a full report of this case. Suffice it to say that it commenced in a contest over the Ritual, and developed into a decided revolt against Grand Lodge authority on the part of those named in the annexed edict of suspension—a punishment too mild, in our judgment, to suit the gravity of the offence—viz :

"EDICT :

"To all Brethren in obedience to the M. W. Grand Lodge of Manitoba, A. F. and A. M. :

"Whereas, Brothers W. N. Kennedy and George Black, Past Grand Masters, have, in conjunction with Brother E. G. Conklin, (styling himself 'Grand Junior Warden,'—which he is not; but who was suspended by my Edict, bearing date the twelfth day of November last, for causes therein stated, and which suspension has not been removed) presumed to issue without my knowledge or consent a second notice calling a meeting of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, such notice bearing date, Winnipeg, December 11th, 1878, and signed by them as Past Grand Masters; and whereas, such proceeding is a direct violation of the Constitution, clause 18, on page 16, and an usurpation of my authority as Grand Master:

"Be it therefore known to you all, that in virtue of the authority in me vested, as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, A. F. and A. M.. I do hereby suspend the said Brothers W. N. Kennedy and George Black from all masonic rights and privileges, and all Brethren are hereby notified not to hold masonic intercourse with them; and any Brother who shall appear at the Masonic Hall, Winnipeg, or elsewhere within this jurisdiction, in answer to such clandestine notice, or any similar notice, shall be subject to like penalty of suspension.

"Witness my Hand and Seal of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, at Winnipeg, Province of Manitoba, Dominion of Canada, this seventeenth day of December, A. D. 1878.

"GEO. F. NEWCOMB,
"Grand Master.

"ATTEST.
[SEAL.]
"JOHN H. BELL,
"Grand Secretary."

At the annual communication held at Winnipeg February the 12th, A. D. 1879, this controversy was again the topic of absorbing interest, as we gather from the address of Grand Master Geo. F. Newcomb, and the revolt had attempted to "make head" against authority by organizing a Grand Lodge (spurious) with W. F. Kennedy Grand Master and E. G. Conklin, Grand Secretary. Grand Master Newcomb says of "this crowning treachery" that:

Following the announcement of the organization of this spurious body, several communications appeared in connection with the subject. In the *Daily Free Press*, of the 23d January last, the proceedings of another meeting of that spurious body was published as having taken place on the day previous, resulting, as the report stated, in the *re*-election of all the officers. The several communications referred to as having appeared in the press prior and subsequent to this meeting have been printed by this Grand Lodge and sent to all foreign Grand Lodges as a circular of warning, together with the several edicts of suspension which had been previously mailed. I also wrote to the sister Grand Lodges who were represented in the persons of those who had seceded from this Grand Lodge, recommending the cancellation of their credentials, and the appointment of other representatives.

He also gives an apparently candid statement of the origin of the difficulty thus:

To those brethren in doubt as to the members of this Grand Lodge who are responsible for the introduction of the "ritual difficulty," so-called, I will say that a reference to the proceedings of Grand Lodge will show the names of those brethren who took the initiatory to force a ritual upon this Grand Lodge, and the date such action was taken, see page 37, proceedings 1876. Pages 31 and 32, proceedings 1877, will also show the leading minds in the scheme had slightly changed, probably owing to the majority of more than two to one against them. Not satisfied, however, with a fair, honest, constitutional defeat upon their own base, they have continued to agitate the question.

They have gathered in all available material, affiliating some at an emergent meeting in fourteen days from date of application—see pages 51 and 52, proceedings of 1878—for the purpose, as rumored, of gaining votes in the Grand Lodge. The last part of page 52 will show that more votes were still required to carry W. N. Kennedy's motion to elect officers on the evening of the 13th June. Page 53, same proceedings, tells the disgraceful termination of their attempt to force a ritual upon this Grand Lodge. The attempt to force a ritual, contrary to the sentiments expressed in the report of the "Committee on Ritual," of which I was a member, as recorded on page 37, proceedings of 1876, will suffice to convince every intelligent, unbiased Mason that the absence of power was all that prevented the enforcement of the "Canadian Ritual," upon all Lodges for all time, while it does appear from the records that, with a majority of more than two to one, the "Ancient York" advocates made no effort to change the work of any of the Lodges then organized, but allowed Emerson Lodge its choice of the two works, and also gave them just representation in the elective offices. The facts therefore show that the majority of this Grand Lodge never brought in a motion affecting the work of any of the Lodges already constituted.

The revolt will (if not already so terminated) end in the full vindication of the Regular Grand Lodge and the total discomfiture of the rebels.

Manitoba abounds in productive resources, and is increasing rapidly in population and wealth. Why should masonry not clear away its *barnacles* and ride buoyantly on the advancing wave of prosperity?

NO REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Brother Rev. Sam'l P. Matheson (elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother John H. Bell (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges.....7 (?)

MARYLAND.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Maryland met in annual communication the 96th, at Baltimore, November the 19th, A. D. 1878, and as the minutes state :

The M. W. Grand Master, Brother John H. B. Latrobe, being unavoidably absent from the city, Brother Francis Burns, R. W. Deputy Grand Master, called Brother John M. Carter, R. W. Senior Grand Warden, to the chair, who opened the Grand Lodge in form.

Sixty-nine Lodges represented.

Grand Master Latrobe's annual address was read by acting G. M. Carter. The financial condition of the Lodge, of which he says :

"Since the election of the Grand Master to his present high office eight years ago, the finances of the Grand Lodge have always been the prominent subject of interest in his addresses, and its importance is not less now than it has been heretofore"—

Is very elaborately discussed in this address almost to the exclusion of other topics.

The debt alluded to was incurred in building the Masonic Temple. We see in the proceedings no exact statement of its amount, but its annual burden of interest and ground rent is given, say $4,528 97. The Grand Master recommended a per capita tax—of "$2 50 on city members and $1 50 on all country members"—which was not approved by the Grand Lodge, and the following resolution was substituted, viz :

Resolved, That the W. Masters and the Past Masters of each Lodge in this jurisdiction be and they are hereby appointed a committee to solicit subscriptions from each individual Mason and from their Lodges, to be applied to the liquidation of the debts of the Grand Lodge, under the direction of the Board of Managers. No subscription to be binding unless the sum of fifty thousand dollars is subscribed *bona fide*.

Relief is not likely to come in that way.

From a special report of the Committee on Correspondence we extract the following remarks as worthy of special notice. We had not before discovered the offensive decision of the Grand Orient of Italy, alluded to annexed, viz :

It appears that the decision of the Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Italy was requested by several of the Italian Lodges as to whether it was necessary to ask the candidate "What is your duty towards God?" The Grand Master referred the question to the Council of the Order, which decided that it was not necessary, and that every duty of the Ma-

son is included in the following questions, and that they have no right to demand more :

"What is your duty to humanity?"

"What is your duty to the country?"

"What is your duty to yourself?"

And whereas genuine Freemasonry will ever maintain that no atheist can be made a Mason, and repudiate the false doctrine which denies the existence of God and the immortality of the soul, your committee therefore recommends that the Grand Lodge of Maryland enters into no fraternal relations whatever with the Grand Orient of Italy, nor permits any of the Lodges working under its Constitution to receive, as Masons, members of Italian Lodges which hold their charters from that Grand Orient.

As a matter of information, your committee would also state that the Grand Orient of France, at its General Assembly held Sept. 9th, 1878, so amended its Constitution as to permit the invasion of foreign jurisdictions which are not in fraternal relations with that Grand Orient. This unjustifiable course, which is no new practice, however, does not require any action on the part of this Grand Lodge, as all relations with the Grand Lodges of this country were severed in 1870, when the Grand Orient of France invaded the jurisdiction of Louisiana.

The regular

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE,

From the pen of Brother F. J. S. Gorgas, Chairman, is a valuable portion of these proceedings.

Including Alabama—report for 1877—he has reviewed in good style and taste the proceedings of 50 American Grand Lodges, and also given us interesting tidings from seven foreign Grand Bodies.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Brother John M. Carter (elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother Jacob H. Medairy (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS.

The Grand Annual Communication (its 145th anniversary) of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts convened at Boston, December 11th, A. D. 1878.

Present and presiding—M. W. Charles Alfred Welch.

One hundred and fifty-four Lodges represented.

The Grand Master's annual address is, to our taste, a model of completeness.

He gives a good report of the condition of the Craft as follows :

From the returns of the District Deputy Grand Masters, and my own

more limited observation, I am able to state to you that the general condition of the Lodges throughout the State is satisfactory. The Ritual is correctly, and, what seems to me more important, is impressively rendered; the Records of the Lodges are correctly kept; harmony prevails; and the duty which each Mason owes to the Institution is freely acknowledged. Never has Masonry held a more respectable position before the community. There has not been a larger decrease for the last few years in the number of those asking admittance to the degrees than might have been expected from the long continuing disturbed financial condition of the country. The present number of chartered Lodges is two hundred and twenty-one, being an increase of two during the year, and there are two under dispensation. There exists probably a disposition to investigate with more care than formerly the character of those who apply for the degrees, and to strengthen the masonic institution in the State rather by the quality than the number of its initiates. We all, indeed, should feel that now, when those opposed to masonry are fewer in number and generally of less standing in the community than formerly, there is more danger that undeserving persons may seek admission for the sake of the supposed influence it may give them, or the assistance to be derived from it in attaining some other object of their ambition.

He does not like, and cautions against the error, "the tendency lately manifested to publish in newspapers detailed reports of masonic proceedings."

The Grand Lodge owes a debt—incurred in building the Masonic Temple—stated now at $275,000, and for which special provision must be made, as after 1879 the "special capitation tax" would cease, and reduce the income below the necessary expenses of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Master treats this debt question elaborately and makes useful suggestions which, if followed, will we doubt not afford ample relief, closing his remarks on that topic, thus:

Looking at what has been accomplished in the past, I see nothing in the difficulties by which we are now surrounded, to discourage us, if we are willing to make proper exertions and exercise a proper economy.

When the Temple was completed, 16,000 Masons owed $450,000; in 1880 over 25,000 will owe $265,000. We have not yet, to be sure, reached the haven of security; the expectations of some of us have been disappointed; the hopes of all in some degree frustrated by the financial storm which has swept over the civilized world. But our Institution, although it has been in great danger, is still sound and intact; its credit is unimpaired; its members regard it with affection; and, not despairing because their great object has failed of accomplishment as soon as they expected, will give it, I trust, the same generous aid for a few years longer which they have given it in the past.

"Bravely the ship, in the tempest tossed,
Buffets the waves till the sea be crossed;
Not in despair of the haven fair,
Though winds blow backward and leagues be lost."

He announces the regretful intelligence of the death of "two of the most valuable officers of the Grand Lodge," viz: That of R. W. Brother John McClellan, Grand Treasurer, who died September 29th, 1878, and of R. W. Brother Charles H. Titus, Grand Secretary, on the 29th of October following.

The Grand Lodge assembled in special communication, November 1st, 1878, to "perform the burial service" over the remains of Brother Titus, and the proceedings abound in appropriate eulogies of both of these deceased worthy Brethren.

The Grand Master also announces the death, November 14th, of R. W. Abraham A. Dame, "one of the oldest, perhaps the oldest Mason in the State," to whom all honor was due and paid as far as funeral rites, at least, could demonstrate them.

Two dispensations for new Lodges granted.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Charles Alfred Welch (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother Tracy P. Cheever (elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges.....231
Number of U. D. Lodges.....2

Following the annual meeting, viz., on Friday the 27th day of December, 1878, the usual stated communication "for the installation of officers and the celebration of the Feast of St. John the Evangelist," was convened.

This ceremonial meeting, and the "GRAND FEAST" that followed, adding its creature comforts to the preceding intellectual enjoyments, was as it always is in Massachusetts, a notable assemblage of the representative men of the Craft in that old "COMMONWEALTH."

We quote for preservation and future use a classic contribution of praise and supplication by W. Bro. Joshua Young, Grand Chaplain, in his

PRAYER OF INSTALLATION:

We praise Thee, O God! we acknowledge Thee to be the Lord.
All the earth doth worship Thee, the Father everlasting.
To Thee all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the powers therein.
To Thee, cherubim and seraphim continually do cry: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts: Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of Thy glory.
Lord of all good, Thou hast revealed thyself as one to whom we

may pray ; to whom we may give thanks for all the blessings of life, so manifold and great ; whom we may seek for guidance in our difficulties, for strength in our weakness.

Except the Lord build the house,
The builders labor in vain.
Except the Lord keep the city,
The watchman waketh in vain.

Let our prayer come before Thee now.

Kneeling at this altar erected to Thee, and consecrated to Truth and Love, behold, O Lord ! Thy servant once more to be inducted with solemn service into the high and responsible office to the honors and duties of which the free will of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge has called him.

Replenish him, we pray Thee, O our God, with the grace of Thy Holy Spirit, that he may always incline to Thy will, and walk in Thy way ; and, that he may truly please Thee, pour upon him the continual dew of Thy blessing.

Walking by the Plumb and working by the Square, as one ever exposed to the All-Seeing-Eye ; diligent, prudent, temperate and discreet, may he be an example to the whole Craft in all Masonic virtues, in constancy and fidelity, in all the charities that soothe and heal and bless, in generous inclination, in just rule, in good actions, and pure thoughts.

And in all his associates in the government of this Grand Lodge, and in the administration of its affairs, may he find the spirit of obedience and co-operation and generous emulation. May they be of one mind and of one heart ; and when their term of service has expired, may they leave the Institution, whose great interests are now to be committed to them, as unto true and faithful men, not only having received no detriment, but high advanced, yet more firmly established in the esteem and affection of the entire Brotherhood.

We commend to Thee, O God ! the Ancient Order of Free and Accepted Masons wherever on broad continents, or in the far-off isles of the sea, it sets up its pillars of Wisdom, Strength and Beauty, and builds its altars to the God of Truth and Love.

Revive the purity and deepen the power of its testimony, and in all the world may it be a witness of whatsoever things are true, of whatsoever things are just and lovely and of good report.

Nearer and nearer, O Thou God of Righteousness, who art not the author of confusion, but of Peace,—nearer and nearer may Thy Kingdom come from age to age ; meeting the face of the young as a rising dawn, and brightening the song of the old, "Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace."

O God ! by the cleasing spirit of Thy Truth, make this world a fitting fore-court to that sanctuary not made with hands, eternal in the heavens, where mortality is swallowed up of life ; and to Thee, O Lord God Almighty, who art, and wast, and art to come, be all glory and praise forever and ever. *Amen.*

MICHIGAN.

The neat volume of minutes now before us gives the proceedings of M. W. Grand Lodge of Michigan, at its grand annual communication, held at JACKSON, January 28th and 29th, A. D. 1879.

Present, M. W. Grand Master Jno. W. Finch, who opened in Ample Form the Grand Lodge when assured by the responses to "roll call" "that a constitutional number of representatives of subordinate lodges were present."

The Grand Master's address is excellent in word and in thought, and we with pleasure reproduce many of his sentences as indexes of the condition and opinions of the Craft in that jurisdiction.

Of internal affairs, he says :

Since the organization of Zion Lodge in Detroit, in 1794, until the present time, Masonry has kept equal pace with the growth and prosperity of our State, comprehending within its scope of membership, many of the noblest minds and truest hearts which adorn our commonwealth.

Under those circumstances allow me to repeat: Brethren, ye are auspiciously met.

As I pass to notice those subjects which should come before you today, I shall have much to approve and commend. If I have discerned aught to criticise, it will be done in a spirit of brotherly love and charity.

From the report of the district deputies, I learn that unusual interest has been manifested in our schools of instruction, and that very few Lodges have failed to respond to the summons to be present at these meetings.

These schools under the efficient management of our Right Worshipful Grand Visitor and Lecturer, have tended to a uniformity of work unsurpassed in any other Jurisdiction.

The pride of doing good work creates an incentive to choose good material to work upon ; and, although the initiations are less in number than in former years, yet this consideration is overbalanced by the degree of excellence in the character of those admitted.

Thus Masonry, year by year, is seeking a higher plane.

As intelligence and a more elevated tone of morals predominate in our assemblies, the ignorant, the intemperate and profane, seek for more congenial society, outside the portals of our Lodge rooms.

SUSPENSIONS.

Owing to the rigor of the times, there has been a greater number of suspensions for the non-payment of dues, than in any former years. These suspensions as a rule, are among the poor but worthy class of members who find it extremely hard to meet the expenses of their families and pay the required dues to their respective Lodges.

He does not (nor do we) approve the too frequent and essentially

harsh enforcement of the penalty for non-payment of dues, especially where poverty causes the delinquency, as is frequently the case.

Lodges need dues, but they also need members!

He speaks, very *judiciously*, as annexed, of

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

"I am pleased to announce that our relations with sister foreign jurisdictions are those of peace and harmony. While this Grand Lodge guards with zeal its own interests, and stands ready to accord to sister jurisdictions that measure of justice we wish meted out to ourselves, I am compelled to note with deepest concern the relations existing between the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Quebec.

At the time that fraternal relations between the Grand Lodges of England and Canada were established, the jurisdiction of Canada extended over what is now the Province of Quebec; and it was agreed to tolerate in the city of Montreal, the existence of certain English Lodges and one Scotch Lodge, which had refused to submit themselves to the Grand Lodge of Canada. But the concession did not contemplate the forming of new Lodges, by any foreign Grand Body, within the territory over which the Grand Lodge of Canada exercised jurisdiction.

After the political confederation of the Provinces, a new Grand Lodge was formed in the Province of Quebec, which claimed exclusive jurisdiction over that province; the Grand Lodge of Canada assenting thereto.

The Grand Lodge of Quebec has received fraternal recognition from nearly all the sister Grand Lodges of the United States, together with that of England and Scotland. The Grand Lodge of Scotland, however, insisted that the covenant made with the Grand Lodge of Canada should be observed; and the Grand Lodge of Quebec repudiating it, and contends that no lodge shall be tolerated within her jurisdiction holding allegiance to any foreign Grand Lodge.

As a result, the Grand Lodge of Scotland has withdrawn her recognition of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, declaring the province unoccupied territory, and has established two new lodges within the province, and appointed a district deputy to guard its interests.

This is a brief synopsis of the history of the relations now existing between these Grand Bodies, and in my judgment deserves some expression from this Grand Lodge.

I commend the subject to your careful consideration.

GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE.

Masonry as a moral institution has for its chief corner stone, a belief in the existence of a Supreme Being. Its teachings and traditions from its earliest inception down through all the ages, has been to acknowledge T. G. A. O. T. U. as our Supreme Governor and Master. Its traditions are founded on the events that transpired during the construction of the first Temple, which K. S. erected and dedicated to the MOST HIGH GOD, the GREAT I AM, of the Jewish nation. In all civilized nations wherever

an Altar has been erected to Masonry, on it has been placed a copy of the Book of the Law, as one of its first Great Lights. A candidate for admission into the mysteries of our Order must, on bended knee, proclaim his belief in the existence of a Deity, before he can be permitted to behold the beauties of our inner Temple.

On this foundation Masonry has withstood the tempests of persecution and war desolation, while time, to which all things sublunary must yield, has contributed to formulate and perfect its beauties.

Its principles, like truth, are everlasting

Yet the Grand Orient of France, surrounded by Atheism and Infidelity, has, by a decided majority, yielded to the popular clamor and stricken from its constitution the requirements of a belief in Deity, and substituted therefor "absolute liberty of conscience and human Solidarity." It excludes no man on account of his belief. Although fraternal relations have been severed with the Grand Orient of France since 1870, on account of its infringement of the Grand Jurisdiction of Louisiana, I think this innovation upon the established principles of our Order should receive the severest condemnation of this Grand Lodge."

He called for contributions in aid of the sufferers from the epidemic of 1878, and we reproduce the record of results as well as his noble sentiments of sympathy and good will, viz:

"This call was responded to by nearly every Lodge in this jurisdiction with that noble charity which, rising above the sectional differences of the past, regarded only the cry of woe which eloquently appealed to the merciful heart of humanity.

God bless those Lodges whose generosity, forgetting the estrangements of the past, pausing not to enquire who once wore the blue or who the gray, flowed out in deeds of substantial benevolence and brotherly sympathy.

These acts of kindness, magnanimously expressed, and gratefully appreciated, have more than a common significance; and we may hope to realize therefrom an abundant fruition. The feelings of bitterness which by reason of the unhappy events of the recent past, had rankled unappeased in the Southern heart toward the North, and the flames of discord fanned by political breezes, met their extinguishment in the overwhelming charity and sympathy of the whole country, for timely succor extended to the grief-stricken people of the South, in the hour of their extreme ordeal. Thus, "what is man's necessity is God's opportunity" for uniting the hearts of an estranged people.

As has been remarked by a Southern Statesman, "instead of harboring one feeling of malice or hatred toward a people so generous, I feel rather like standing before them with bared head and outstretched arms and gather them to my heart."

Surely, the blessings of a grateful people descend upon us like the dew of Hermon; and in the giving and partaking our charities are doubly blest.

The total amount received from the Lodges, $4,441.75."

Many such words of kindness and noble acts of good will, we have already recorded. Oh, when will political strife and misrule cease to

disturb the harmony of this re-united country! The wise and good of all sections pray for peace and reconciliation; but there is an element in every State which thrives by contention and will not forego strife. May charity at length prove the Shibboleth that shall test the true statesman and expose the wiles of the imposter!

We quote one of his numerous decisions, involving a question of moment, and not recently discussed that we are aware of, viz:

"*Question.*—If, after a Brother is made a Mason, he becomes an Atheist, has a Lodge a right to expel him?

Answer.—A belief in Deity is a fundamental principle of Masonry. No Atheist can be made a Mason. If, after the building is erected, we remove the foundation stone the building falls. He has already ceased to be a Mason only in name, and should be expelled."

Brother William P. Innes, Grand Secretary and Committee, has given us a very able and elaborate

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE,

and we regret very much that our failing health forbids our undertaking such a review of it as its merits demand. We are feeble from a recent illness, and shall at the close of this report ask the indulgence of our colleagues for defects, enhanced by a malady which will not release its hold upon our *throat*, and still afflicts us with bodily as well as mental lassitude.

Brother Innes, in the report referred to, has carefully and exhaustively reviewed the proceedings of 41 American Grand Lodges. He notices acceptably, and indeed very kindly, the proceedings of Alabama, as reported for 1877, and we thank him for his pleasant words of encouragement.

GRAND OFFICERS:

M. W. Brother Daniel Striker (elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother William P. Innes (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges.....338

MINNESOTA.

We again welcome Minnesota Reports, having before us the proceedings of that Grand Lodge at its Grand Annual Communication, assembled Tuesday, January the 14th, A. D. 1879.

M. W. Grand Master E. W. Durant present and presiding over a Grand

Lodge comprising, in addition to a full list of Grand and Past Grand officers, the Representatives of 112 constituent Lodges.

The Grand Master's Address discusses with force and propriety the topics, both local and general, suited to the occasion—gives of the condition of the Craft in that jurisdiction the following cheering report, viz :—

"One year ago you placed in my hand the gavel of authority, and in thus honoring me, you at the same time placed me under a weighty responsibility to the fraternity of this Grand Jurisdiction. The time has now come when I must account to you of my stewardship and render a full account of my official action.

Of the Craft at large, I would say Freemasonry in Minnesota has been built up on a firm and enduring basis. As the foundation was secure, so has our structure been builded, the elements of wisdom and strength have been united with that symbolic beauty taught by speculative Masonry, as exemplified by the widow's son.

Masonry in Minnesota has made wonderful progress. One hundred and forty Lodges answer at our roll call, and nearly seven thousand Masons acknowledge fealty to this Grand Lodge. As a rule, our Lodges occupy safe and comfortable, and in many instances elegant halls, suitably fitted up and arranged, with the necessary clothing and paraphernalia of our Order, governed by careful and prudent Craftsmen, Brethren who are zealous in well-doing, guarding carefully the portals, and with an ever-watchful eye, closely scrutinizing those who would enter therein."

He discusses very fully the recent changes in constitution of the Grand Orient of France, giving what we have no where else found, a very interesting resume of the reports and arguments of the advocates and opposers, in that Grand Body, of the "*absolute liberty of conscience*" clause substituted for the original declaration requiring assent to the belief in Deity.

This portion of the address is very interesting, and we have profited by its lessons.

He denounces the change of constitution, and a committee of the Grand Lodge presented a report and resolution in conformity to his views, which were adopted as follows :

Your committee deem the subject of vital interest to our order, and one upon which all Grand Lodges have heretofore agreed, and they are deeply pained at the action of the Grand Orient of France, being impressed with the conviction that the said action is destructive of those principles which have always been held dear to Masons everywhere, and they feel that the character of said action deserves the strongest reprobation, and that fraternal relations cannot be consistently maintained between this Grand Lodge and the Grand Orient of France.

Your committee also deem it important that under the existing circumstances there should be placed on record a reiteration of certain of the cardinal principles of Freemasonry.

A belief in Deity and in the immortality of the soul is now, and has been in all ages, and among all nations, the foundation upon which Freemasonry has builded.

The first lesson impressed upon a candidate for Masonic honors, is his responsibility to a Supreme Being. It is not in the power of any body of men to make innovations in the fundamental principles of Freemasonry.

In view, therefore, of these principles, and facts, your committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the Grand Orient of France has subverted the principles of Freemasonry, by removing the foundation stone upon which her structure is erected, thereby forfeiting all claims upon Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota hereby declines to hold fraternal relations with the Grand Orient of France, and forbids recognition of the Masons under the obedience of the said Grand Orient of France, by the lodges of this jurisdiction until such obedience is severed.

Dispensations for six new lodges were granted.

His decisions are quite numerous, but we note only two which relate to questions of general interest, and quote them annexed, viz :

Question.—A brother has received the degree of Entered Apprentice, his further progress is objected to by a brother who enters a written and verbal protest. The W. M., after hearing the objections raised against the candidate's further progress, decides the reasons given as insufficient, and confers the degrees of F. C. and M. M. The brother raising the objection appeals to the Grand Master.

Answer.—The W. M. has the right to confer the degrees after objections are made, should he consider the objections frivolous or insufficient to prevent the advancement of the candidate, and is answerable only to the Grand Lodge.

Question.—One of our members has committed suicide, his wife wishes him buried by the fraternity, shall we perform the ceremony?

Answer.—Yes, he was our brother, and as such entitled to a Masonic burial.

He alludes to "the matter of difference" with the Grand Lodge of Dakota, and says in his concluding remarks on that subject :

The Grand Master of Dakota devotes a large portion of his address to this subject of difference between the two Grand Jurisdictions. Not having access to the correspondence referred to, I do not feel competent to advise relative to the situation. One thing is certain, our Dakota brethren feel that we are in the wrong. Any matter of difference between two Grand Jurisdictions is a subject that should engage the attention of every Mason within such jurisdictions, and let the Grand Lodge of Dakota be right or wrong, we must do our duty in the premises ; if they are right let us accord to them their rights, if they are wrong it is our duty to point out the error and ask them to rectify it. From my slight knowledge of the questions involved, it is impossible for me to

suggest any mode of action, but at the same time would call the especial attention of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence to the report of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Dakota, in order that proper steps may be taken to adjust any real or imaginary differences that may exist between the jurisdictions referred to.

These be kind words—are suggestive of reconciliation. The controversy had its origin during the administration of his predecessor, Grand Master Braden—since deceased. The Committee on Jurisprudence were inclined to reassert the rights and defend the position of Minnesota in this jurisdictional controversy, but we think final action was deferred at their suggestion.

IN MEMORIAM.

Pages are inscribed to the memory of R. W. Jno. H. McKenny, of Minnesota; P. G. M. J. McCaleb Wiley, of Alabama; and P. G. M. Geo. W. Chaytor, of Delaware.

Brother A. T. C. Pierson, Chairman, gives us one of his pleasant and valuable deliverances in

THE REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE,

In which he reviews the proceedings of 44 Grand Lodges.

His notice of Alabama—report of 1877—is full and satisfactory.

He quotes from Grand Master Pillans' address, and reproduces also with approval, the tribute of respect to the memory of P. G. M. Wiley, recorded in our minutes of that communication.

He knew Brother Wiley personally, and expresses kind sympathy with the Brethren of Alabama in their loss.

He notices pleasantly the reports of the Committee on Appeals, and likewise the report on Correspondence.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Henry R. Wells (elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. A. T. C. Pierson (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges	127
Number of U. D. Lodges	3

MISSISSIPPI.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Mississippi is somewhat peripatetic, like that of Michigan, its meetings being changed from city to city at will.

They have no Grand Masonic Temple, and no burdensome debt, hence are free to change their place of temporary sojourn as convenience or policy dictates.

The grand annual communicition for 1879, the 61st, was held at Okalona, that for 1880 is to be held at Jackson, on Wednesday, January the 15th, A. D. 1880.

It was a notable assemblage of Grand and Past Grand Officers, Grand Representatives, with constituent representatives of 157 subordinate lodges, and a large number of visiting Brethren.

M. W. Grand Master Charles T. Murphy, present and presiding.

The grave and memorable events of the preceding summer, involving disasters unprecedented in the history of epidemics, as well as fruitful of deeds of unexampled heroism, and self-sacrifice in obedience to duty; abounding too in evidences of the good will and charity of sympathetic communities both near and far—for from every hamlet of this widely extended country came volunteer tokens of sympathy, accompanied by bountiful relief contributions, for the suffering and destitute—had entailed upon this convocation of the Grand Lodge unusual and responsible duties which were neither neglected nor partially attended to.

All through the proceedings before us, commencing with the Grand Master's address, adding volume to the able report of R. W. Grand Secretary J. L. Power, and acceptably prominent in the eloquent minutes of their LODGE of SORROW, we find the duties of the occasion amply responded to. Their acknowledgements of obligation to the living, and tears of regret for the dead—not forgetting to embalm in words of glowing tribute the deeds of their heroic martyrs—give to these proceedings a peculiar value for historic detail and wealth of eloquently expressed emotion which can only be appreciated by being read in their consecutive order and completeness. We despair of doing justice to the report by a partial review of its record of epidemic incidents, and shall not attempt it; but confine our subsequent remarks to the ordinary routine of business of the Lodge.

The Grand Master thinks "non-affiliation is *per se* a masonic crime, which deserves punishment"—yet is willing that the Lodges shall decide who, of the non-affiliates, should receive masonic burial honors.

He granted only one dispensation to "confer the degrees in less time than the law requires."

Announces several ceremonial assemblages (five) for laying corner stones."

He says of the

GENERAL CONDITION:

While the stringency in financial matters is evidently the chief factor in the general apathy in Masonic circles, many of minor import tending in the same direction are worthy of consideration. But I would rather speak of the remedies. Masonry is pre-eminently a social institution. Eliminate its sociality, and it droops and dies as certainly as the plant when robbed of the light of the sun.

We ought to hold "Schools of Instruction"—district meetings, if you please, at proper seasons, and mix and mingle together and provoke one and another in that, "noble strife, or rather emulation as to who can best work and best agree." Masters of Lodges and experts ought to read and discuss our proceedings as the law directs, and criticise freely every measure; and the Masters and Wardens especially, should learn the law as well as the ritual. Brother Power's "Blue Lodge Text Book," at the reduced price of one dollar, ought to be in the hands of every Mason in the State. The reports of the D. D. G. M.'s herewith handed you, are not encouraging, and chiefly because of a general inattention to Masonic duties, rather than a disrespect for their moral obligations. I am tempted to suggest the propriety of sending among the craft a sort of Masonic Evangelist, with the hope of infusing a more active zeal among the brethren, and am only restrained by the pressure of "hard times." The Grand Lecturers and District Deputies might do this—but to do it well requires money. There's the rub.

The report of the Grand Secretary gives a discouraging statement of decreasing revenue as follows:

The receipts of the past five years, as well as the aggregate membership of the Jurisdiction, show a steady decrease, and the figures are here given in the hope that they may suggest something that may lead to a revival, financially and otherwise, in our Lodges.

Receipts, 1874		$13,568 11
"	1875	11,364 09
"	1876	10,611 09
"	1877	9,609 25
"	1878	8,953 28

The sum of $1,248 20 is due the Grand Lodge for annual dues and balances.

We regret to see so true a Mason as Brother J. L. Power committing himself, as in the annexed quotation, to the scheme known as

MASONIC MUTUAL AID.

In July last I received a communication from Bros. W. F. Franks and J. T. Randolph, Past Masters of Cannon Lodge, No. 159, suggesting the propriety of inaugurating a system of mutual aid or beneficial endowments among the Craft in this Jurisdiction. I referred the matter to the M. W. Grand Master, expressing the hope that the consideration of the question might not be deemed a serious "innovation." In October, Bro. W. A. Hale, of Abert Lodge, No. 89, addressed me a similar communica-

tion, and I transmitted his views to the Lodges, inviting an expression of opinion. A few only have responded. Some of our brethren attempted an organization for this purpose about seven years ago, which resulted in failure; but a like organization in Indiana, has been in successful operation for ten years, and has already paid a large amount of money to the families of its deceased members. The B'nai Brith organization, the Knights of Honor, and similar benevolent societies have demonstrated by years of successful experience the wisdom, economy and complete security of the insurance plans adopted by each. The Odd Fellows of this State, in Grand Lodge, have adopted a carefully matured plan, which will soon go into operation, and which will secure the sum of one thousand dollars on the death of a member. The two first organizations named have recently distributed nearly a quarter of a million of dollars among the widows and orphans in Memphis, Holly Springs, Grenada, Canton, Vicksburg, Jackson and other places. This is practical mutual aid; and although our Grand Lodge, as a body, may not be ready to commit itself to such a "new departure," the Masons of the State, or of several adjoining States, might be able to effect an organization that would secure benefits which they can now only obtain by becoming members of other benevolent societies, and thus diminishing their interest in our ancient institution.

I have hesitated to refer to such a topic in my report, and have only done so in deference to the wishes of brethren who wish the subject brought prominently before the Craft.

This suggestion was referred to a special committee, with instructions to thoroughly investigate the different systems and agree upon a definite plan for such an organization, to be under the control of the Grand Lodge.

Brother Power reports the total receipts from all sources, contributed through him in aid of the yellow fever sufferers, to be $75,472 56, derived from "forty-one States and Territories, two British Provinces, Mexico and other foreign countries."

The Committee on Masonic Law and Jurisprudence reported an amended constitution (or rather a new one), which, after discussion, was, with all pending amendments, "recommitted and ordered to be printed with the proceedings, with a view to action at the next annual session."

Brother J. M. Howry, P. G. M., presented

THE REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE,

His second annual report, which is written excellently well, and we regret that our feeble health prevents a full review of it.

His notice of Alabama proceedings—report of 1877—is acceptably full and courteous.

We approved a decision of P. G. M. Murry, made in 1877, to which he dissents, as follows:

This case has two sides to it! The position here set forth is, that a brother who died from the excessive use of intoxicating liquors, must be buried with Masonic honors, because the Lodge did not enforce discipline, and allowed the brother to die in good standing, although killed by whisky.

Quere? If a Lodge does a wrong of omission, or by neglect of duty fails to enforce her laws, does that justify a wrong of commission by endorsing the intemperate life of a brother after his death?

Our object in presenting the question in this shape is to elicit further and more strict investigation into this, as well as all questions of a kindred nature.

We once witnessed the Masonic burial of a Mason who died in a drunken revel, and the sensibilities of a moral community were shocked at the seeming difference between our preaching and our practice! We confess, the ordeal was one which was calculated to cause every good man to pause and seriously reflect on such a procedure. Here is a question for the casuist, and we trust our enlightened brethren in all the jurisdictions will look into it with a view to arrive at some uniform rule on the subject. We have taken the position heretofore that a Lodge is not bound to bury a brother with the honors of the craft, but shall act in each case as the circumstances shall justify. While our laws are humane —our ethics pure; moral character being the test of admission into our mystic circle—our charity unbounded, we should be careful how we exhibit ourselves before a profane world, and especially a Christian and intelligent world. These benefits and honors should be conferred on merit and worth alone, and the dereliction of a Lodge should not inure to the honor of the wrong-doer. The remedy against the Lodge should be censure or forfeiture of chartered rights.

The objection is strongly put, but the case used in illustration is an extreme one—indeed, exceptional.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Brother Frank Burkitt (elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother J. L. Power (re-elected).....Grand Secretary

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges.....303
Number of U. D. Lodges..... 1

MISSOURI.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Missouri convened its 58th Grand Annual Communication at St. Louis, October the 15th, A. D. 1878.

One hundred and sixty-two (of 496) chartered Lodges represented.

The M. W. Grand Master, Thomas C. Ready, presided, and opened the Grand Lodge in AMPLE FORM. His annual address is long and exhaustive, instructively so, in its references to local incidents, and its exposi-

tion of the laws operative in that jurisdiction, which apparently needed the full explanations given by him to insure their proper observance by the Craft. He speaks mainly to his home audience, but there are some things of general interest which we reproduce for the benefit of our readers. The first is "a bit" of history, which is thus pleasantly rehearsed, viz:

A retrospect of the past fifty-seven years of the history of the Grand Lodge in Missouri, presents facts and incidents full of interest to the good Mason.

What a bright record do these years of labor present, and how full of encouragement to us is the success which has crowned the patient, earnest and faithful labor performed by our distinguished Brethren and Fathers of Missouri Masonry!

In April, 1821, the Grand Lodge was organized by the union of but three subordinate Lodges, with an aggregate membership of scarce one hundred.

The city of St. Louis contained about 5,000 inhabitants; the country beyond was almost a wilderness—but sparsely settled; the material from which to draw additions to her membership, was limited.

But the bold, daring, earnest men who had inaugurated this new enterprise, faltered not, nor suffered themselves to be discouraged. They trusted in the Supreme Architect to guide them in the path of right, and to preserve and build up their Mystic Temple. "Their trust being in God, their faith was well founded."

The State had just passed the barrier of State and Territorial Government, and had just been admitted into the Union.

The news of her rich and fertile lands and salubrious climate reached the inhabitants of the land east of the Mississippi, and soon emigrants from all the Southern and Middle States came flocking in and scattering over her beautiful prairies, and among her grand timbered lands, and quickly transformed the wilderness into well-cultivated fields, teeming with rich products.

Towns were located, merchandise was imported, tradesmen opened busy workshops. Temples of justice were built, soon followed by churches, and anon, beside these, earnest, zealous and true men erected altars dedicated to virtue and to Masonry; and the success of the inauguration of a distinct Grand Lodge organization was assured.

Year after year, Lodges were added to the number on the Registry, until, to-day the three Lodges of 1821, with one hundred members, have increased to 500 Lodges, with an aggregate membership of 24,000.

Our Fathers have, indeed, left us a rich legacy of honor and good deeds, and it behooves us to guard well the sacred trust. It has been transmitted to us pure and unsullied, and it remains for us to be careful that no stain shall mar its purity, either by act of omission or commission by us.

The noble men who labored so faithfully to establish the Grand Lodge in its earlier years, have gone to rest, but have bequeathed to us the bright record of their useful lives, as exemplars for our guidance. May we be faithful to the high trust confided to us.

He refers feelingly to the, then, recent death of P. G. Master

JOSEPH FOSTER.

Who of all this Grand Lodge did not know, and knowing, love and honor Brother Joseph Foster?

For forty years, he missed the Annual Communications of the Grand Lodge but three times.

His venerable form will be missed from these halls.

His earnest words of instruction and admonition will be heard no more.

He has gone to rest. His chair in the Grand East is vacant, and the emblems of mourning with which it is draped, speak in mute but strong language of the grief which fills the hearts of his Brethren, upon his demise.

Brother Foster was born in Matthews County, Virginia, November 20th, 1802, and died at the residence of his daughter, in St. Louis, May 22d, 1878, aged 75 years, 6 months and 2 days.

For several years, he had made his home with a daughter living in Alton, Ills., until in April last, feeling a premonition of approaching death, he insisted upon returning to St. Louis, that he might die in the city of his adoption, where he had spent so many years of life, and where lay the remains of his loved wife.

Upon his arrival, he summoned the Craft to his bedside, and told them in accents low and soft, and full of hope, that his end was fast approaching; the sands in the hour-glass were nearly exhausted, and that he must soon depart. He said death had no terrors for him; he was prepared to die, and longed to be at rest.

He suffered no pain; he was not sick, and when at last the hour of dissolution came, he quietly and sweetly fell on sleep, "Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch about him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

At his special request, I convened the M. W. Grand Lodge of Missouri in special session, and upon the 24th day of May, laid him away in beautiful Bellefontaine Cemetery, in DUE and SOLEMN FORM.

There, close beside the sleeping remains of his cherished friend and Brother, the loved and lamented O'Sullivan, will his body rest, until the trump of the resurrection morn shall bid it arise.

I was assisted in the funeral rites by Past Grand Masters Garrett, Luke and Cadle, and several other Past and present Grand Officers.

The funeral cortege was large and imposing

A large number of members from all the Lodges in the city were in attendance.

Napthali Lodge, No. 25, of which he was a member, and with which he had been connected from its organization, attended in large numbers, and held the post of honor, as chief mourners.

His remains were laid in state in Masonic Hall, and were visited by a large number of citizens, friends and Brethren, thus attesting the high esteem in which he was held by all.

He alludes to the Quebec–Scotland controversy, and also to "the aggressive movement" of the Grand Lodge of Scotland "against the Grand

Lodge of New South Wales," opposing the acts of Scotland in both cases, but in terms of dignified remonstrance only, thus affording a pleasant contrast to some denunciations that have claimed attention in this report.

Is the following announcement not a good hint, suggestive of an important duty heretofore neglected—may it not be the beginning of a great work in Missouri? We allude to the gift thus acknowledged by the G. Master:

O'SULLIVAN BEQUEST.

Mrs. Mary O'Sullivan, widow of Bro. A. O'Sullivan, former Grand Secretary, in her last will and testament, bequeathed to the Grand Lodge of Missouri, the sum of three thousand dollars ($3,000) for the purpose of founding a widow and orphans' fund.

The estate will be finally settled in July next.

His decisions number 36 in all, and are unexceptionable in our judgment.

He issued Dispensations for six new Lodges.

His was a busy year, involving duties both arduous and responsible, and we think he executed his trust with zeal and ability.

The session of the Grand Lodge closed with its third day of abundant and persevering labor.

The Grand Orator, in an excellent address, discussed "The Missions of Masonry," and as a specimen of his style and matter we give his closing sentences on the "social" subdivision of his subject, viz:

"The Social Mission of Masonry, however, is not for the individual only: in the community and in the State, the Craft has work to do.

It is a center of practical unity. It binds together those of most widely different vocations, of most diverse culture, opinions and associations, on a basis of humanity and worth which equalizes all, degrading none.

For this agency it has peculiar adaptation. Its tenets are most simple and of universal application and acceptance. Its teachings, commending themselves to all, are readily fitted to all circumstances and occasions. Its standard, requiring personal freedom, personal completeness and pure character, gives cohesion without stiffness and without interfering with individual activity. More than all, the unit principle is the recognition of man as man: yet not as man alone, but as standing, even in his dealings with his fellows, in God's fear and hand. Masonry offers no place for selfish toil which does not benefit the mass, or for an overvaulting ambition which rises by the downfall of others. Its honors are of work and worth: its high places are the gift of all; and the leader of to-day, a Brother always, amenable constantly to the one law, becomes the follower of to-morrow. That this work is quietly done: that the Craft takes no 'stand' and rallies no partisans, makes it all the more effective. It requires little, but that little is an *absolute* requirement. The man, as a

Mason, stands solely upon his manhood; and yet his relations to family and friends and society are simply and adequately recognized. It is no slight thing to have in each community of the State and the nation, such a quiet influence at work, softening the asperities of political conflict, smoothing the harsh lines of business, and lulling the antipathies of culture and of creeds. Masonry is not a party, but it saves parties from degenerating into factions. One may not use it in his business, but it prevents business opposition from culminating in bitter rivalry. It is not a religion; but it applies the earthward and manward side of divine law, to the control and guidance of daily, human life.

The power of such an influence is realized aright, only when the ordinary bonds of society are weakened. When political excitement rules and heated tempers gain the mastery, the value of this soothing and healing brotherhood is felt in every village and city circle. I need not illustrate: your own communities will, for each of you, give instances where the rancor of party strife has been abated and the sharp wounds of the contest healed by the influence of our craft. When a deeper strife than that of party rent our land, the ties of Masonic brotherhood were unsundered; and since the strife has closed, at St. Louis and Baltimore and New Orleans and Cleveland, the Masons of our country have met in love to knit more closely the firmest ties of our national life.

But to my mind, Brethren, there is a grander mission for Masonry, than its work for us as individuals, or for the communities in which we dwell.

The lessons and work of the past, we see clearly outlined in the perspective of history. The men who drew upon their Trestleboards the plans for the great Cathedrals of Europe, might not have thought that from every land reverent pilgrims would come to gaze upon their work; and that the power and beauty of their conceptions would influence the hearts and homes of all coming humanity.

The Masters who taught the Fellow Crafts of mediæval days the liberal arts, did not know that their work was one of the Eastward gleams athwart the darkness that should glow, by and by, into the sunburst of morning and the radiance of noon. But they did their work; and doing may have dreamed of grand results for a distant future.

You and I, Brethren, are too near the work of to-day to measure its reach and potency. But the currents of thought and activity drift too strongly to be unnoticed; and to me, there is in the basic principle of our craft, a sympathy with this drift which marks our mission for the race.

It was the Freemason Robert Burns who wrote—

"A man's a man for a' that."

And this is the key note of our work to-day. From the first, even when men were only cattle to the lords who used men's toil, and to the warriors who shed men's blood, through all the advances of our civilization Masonry has made man, for manhood's sake, the standard and measure of its acceptance and its light."

R. W. Brother John D. Vincil, Grand Secretary and Chairman, presents in these proceedings his first

And it is, to our taste, a well conceived, thorough and appropriate review of the proceedings submitted to him. He reviews the proceedings of 49 Grand Lodges.

The Alabama Report for 1877, receives due notice, and is somewhat critically examined.

He objects to the rulings, and law as well, of our Grand Lodge—with special reference to the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence for 1877, on the subject of reversal of Lodge verdicts by the Grand Lodge, and the effect of such reversal on the Masonic standing of the appealing brother. His remarks on this topic are well worthy of candid consideration, and that they may be so considered we reproduce them, annexed *in extenso;* remarking that similar objections to our rulings (in that direction) have been frequently urged heretofore by intelligent reviewers of other jurisdictions. Brother Vincil says:

"The Committee on Jurisprudence rendered a Report, from which we make an extract. The following question had been asked:

'A brother being tried, is found guilty, and suspended for a definite period; he takes an appeal to the Grand Lodge, and the appeal is sustained before the termination of the period of suspension. What is the position of this brother in relation to his Lodge?'

The Committee answered as follows:

'A strict construction of Rule 19, Article VII, of the Constitution, fixes the status of a brother who has been tried and suspended for a definite period, and who has taken an appeal to the Grand Lodge, which appeal has been sustained before the termination of the period of suspension, *to be that of an unaffiliated Mason.*'

We are happy to state the answer was *not* adopted. The subject, with others of an important character, went over to the next session of the Grand Lodge, being 're-referred to the committee.' We have no business with the affairs of our Alabama Brethren, but we must say that the answer of said Committee on Jurisprudence will not 'pass muster' up this way. We wish to learn as we live; therefore, brethren, tell us how you work the *total loss of membership* by simply *suspending* a brother?

We have examined your Constitution (Art. VII, Sec. 19), and grant that your law justifies the decision so far as an expelled Mason is concerned.

While not disposed to argue the point, we seriously question the correctness of a law which keeps an *expelled* Mason out of his Lodge after his restoration by the Grand Lodge to *all* the rights and privileges of Masonry, the *loss* of which had been caused by expulsion. If a Grand Lodge has ground sufficient to set aside the action of a subordinate, and *restore* the expelled party, why not make the restoration complete by giving him *all* he had lost—*membership* being part of said loss?

But all this aside. So far as *suspension* affects the standing of a Brother, we deny that it works a *total loss* of membership. He is suspended *from* membership. The tenure is not broken or destroyed. The effect of sus-

pension as an act is to "*stay*" the process of life; when the "stay" ends, then that which was checked or hindered resumes its course. Life becomes as much a *fact*, with all that belonged to it, as if suspension had never intervened. Membership *from which* a Brother had been suspended follows as necessarily as membership followed being made a Master Mason. We are curious to know what follows suspension when a brother serves out the *term* of punishment imposed. Suppose, in Alabama, A is suspended by his Lodge for a term of two years. At the end of that time the suspension *ceases of itself* by force of the act putting it, as a penalty, into operation. Does it not so terminate? We think so. Then as A is no longer under penalty, is he not *free* from all the disabilities imposed? We so affirm. Is there any necessity for an *act*, on the part of his Lodge, *reinstating* him? Certainly not. Why not? Because if it becomes necessary to *restore a suspended* Mason to *membership* when the time expires, the Lodge may refuse or fail, from many causes, to restore, and the *suspension* becomes or amounts to EXPULSION practically. This is an outrage upon Masonic rights. We presume our Alabama Brethren will hardly controvert this position. Accept, then, the natural and necessary view, that when suspension ends, A reverts to, or is found in his former standing—membership of course. What follows?

B, of the same Lodge, is suspended for two years, but "takes an appeal to the Grand Lodge." His appeal is sustained. The Grand Lodge terminates the suspension before the term, originally fixed by the Lodge, expires. Now the Alabama law declares the *status* of B, thus restored, "*to be that of an unaffiliated Mason.*"

In other words, the act of *restoration* makes him "*an unaffiliated Mason.*" If he, like A, had served out his term of two years in a state of suspension, his penalty would have ceased, and a *return to membership* would have followed necessarily. But as he availed himself of the *right of appeal*, he is at once made "an unaffiliated Mason" as a reward for his temerity, even though the Grand Lodge granted his prayer and restored him by *terminating* his suspension. If that is the manner in which the law operates in case of appeals, we would like to see the law at once and forever abolished. Indeed, we can not view the subject above mentioned in any other light than here presented. Suspension results in expulsion, and an appeal produces non-affiliation. We would pray to be excused from the legal consequences of this style of legislation."

We quote a portion of Brother Vincil's "conclusion":

"We confess to a timidity in keeping with our inexperience in entering upon this new and strange work. To ourselves the field was so vast, the faces so strange, and the labor so important, that with hesitancy we took our place among the gleaners and workmen. We have, however, made the acquaintance of an army of workers with whom we feel more at ease than we expected. Fear has given place to appreciation and timidity yielded to confidence. We remember that all these toilers in a common field are 'Brethren.' We have found them to be broad-minded and clear-headed Thinkers as well as earnest Workers. Recognizing the fact that 'work' is the evidence of 'growth,' and that 'growth' is the measure of 'life,' we are prepared to estimate the worth of our fellow workers, and determine the vitality of the Institution they represent. By their works as well as fruits are we to judge the laborers in this broad

moral vineyard, and estimate the worth of the Masonic Fraternity. These workers are occupying commanding positions for usefulness, and laboring in realms of the real, where thought glows, and treasures of knowledge open, opulent and grand. Among these Brethren we are happy to be found, and only ask to be welcomed and recognized as a co-worker together with them."

And we must, with this extract, close our review of Missouri, not however omitting to return our grateful acknowledgments to Brother Vincil for many kind and acceptable courtesies extended to this invalid Brother while visiting St. Louis in September last, during his Summer's *tramp* in search of health and restoration. I was sick and ye ministered unto me. Thanks and appreciative recognition of your favors, Brother, is all that I can give in return.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Brother Noah M. Givan (elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother John D. Vincil (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges.....496

MONTANA.

We have received no Reports from the M. W. Grand Lodge of Montana since the one containing the proceedings of 1876, reviewed in our Report of 1877.

We regret the absence of these valuable books, and hope to be soon restored to favor in that jurisdiction as a recognized correspondent.

NEBRASKA.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Nebraska, held its 21st annual communication, at OMAHA, commencing Tuesday, June 18th, A. D. 1878.

Present, M. W. Grand Master George W. Lininger, with a full attendance of official members and a quorum (57) of Lodges represented.

The Grand Master delivered an able address well calculated to impress and benefit his constituents.

He alludes with pleasure to many admirable characteristics of the Craft in that jurisdiction, but is also very pronounced in his references to the faults and short comings of many—closing this review of internal affairs he says—truly, we suppose, of his own charge and appositely of all masonic organizations :

The fact is, Brethren, we have in our ranks too many men who are unworthy. The records of our Lodges also show that sometimes out of a membership of from twenty-five to one hundred, there would be present scarcely enough to fill the officers' chairs, and sometimes not enough present to open the Lodge at its regular meetings. I find, also, that many of the Lodges visited have failed to collect their dues. It is possible that these Brethren are so *poor* that they cannot pay the small sum required to meet the Lodge expenses and provide for their personal comfort in the Lodge room? If they are not able to do this, how are we able to fulfill the true mission of Masonry, of charity to all? Some of the records show no money given to charitable objects during the year, while charity and relief are fundamental principles of our society, taught and impressed on our minds by frequent admonitions, and should characterize the life of every Mason. Do we employ these principles in our daily intercourse with our fellowmen?

What is the cause of all this negligence on the part of Masons? My answer is, a lack of discipline; and the remedy is to make them live up to their professions. If a Brother does wrong, do not sympathize with him to such an extent that the fraternity will be disgraced, but enforce the rules and adhere to the principles of Freemasonry if it reduces our membership to one-half its present number. Do it and we will guarantee a good attendance at our meetings, and twice, aye, thrice, the good will be accomplished.

When you discover a member is violating his obligations, warn him of his danger immediately. Use every means in your power to reclaim him. Do your whole duty in this respect, and we will have comparatively few to punish. Several prominent members have been saved from a drunkard's grave, during the year just passed, through the kind efforts of a few good, true Masons.

We quote a few of his decisions as of general application and utility:

Some trouble and difference of opinion has arisen upon the interpretation of section 5, article 10. of our By-Laws, in regard to reinstatement from suspension to membership, or to good standing *in the fraternity only*, leaving him non-affiliated. I do not believe in making demitted Masons in this way. If a brother is fit to be reinstated in the fraternity by a Lodge, he certainly is fit to be a member of that Lodge. A Lodge should not be willing to palm off on others what they are not willing to accept themselves. I recommend that section 5 of our By-Laws be amended.

Has a brother who has been suspended and given notice of an appeal to the Grand Lodge the right to a seat in his Lodge until the Grand Lodge decides his case? Answer—No.

That in making up the quorum for opening a Lodge visiting brethren may be counted, but no important business can be transacted without seven members of the Lodge being present. In balloting there must be seven balls in the box.

You cannot install a brother by proxy.

Any Lodge can file objections in another Lodge against the conferring of either of the degrees; but the reasons must be given, and if of a trivial nature they need not be recognized, otherwise they must be respected.

That no Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Warden, Grand

Treasurer or Grand Secretary can, at the same time, be the Master or Warden of a particular Lodge.

The right of a brother to cast a black ball cannot be questioned in any case where a secret ballot is had ; neither should the Lodge, or any of its members, attempt to find out who cast it ; full protection must be given to the brother casting a black ball.

At the suggestion—special report—of the committee on Correspondence the Grand Lodge cordially recognized the Grand Lodge of NEW MEXICO. Also cautioned the Brethren against the "so-called" "Grand Lodge of New South Wales," and postponed action on "the petition for recognition of the Grand Lodge of COLON."

Our Brethren of Nebraska, in two days of diligent "labor," accomplished well and thoroughly the work before them, and were *refreshed*, while at labor, by the eloquent utterances of W. Brother Leonard W. Colby in his admirable oration, on "the Philosophy of Masonry."

We have a *penchant* for just such views as Brother Colby has so forcibly expressed in this address, and can't resist the temptation of quoting a portion of his remarks on the "philosophy of its origin," viz :

In the earliest ages of the world Masonry began. A careful examination and study of the history and character of our order, after making due allowance for the harmless fictions with which it is embellished, convinces us that modern Freemasonry is the direct successor of the Collegia Fabrorum of the ancient Romans, modified by the Sacred Mysteries of the early Teutonic races and the Druidical institutions of northern Europe, and that these in turn were the successors of the ancient Masonry of Greece, Ægypt and India. the master spirits of antiquity were the founders and organizers of these mystic associations. They were used by them as instruments of civilization and culture, as part of the intellectual and moral needs of humanity. The thinking men of those early periods, withdrawing from the imperfections of the busy life around them, hailed these systems with delight, and accepted them as the institutions which alone could satisfy that universal thirst for knowledge and immortality which begins at birth and stops only in the grave ; which alone could fathom the mysteries of God and nature, unveil the secrets of life. and realize the lofty ideals of the soul.

This being the origin of ancient Masonry, we find, as we should expect, that the civilization of the nations and races of antiquity commences with the formation of Masonic societies. As illustrations of these facts and principles, and for the purpose of throwing more light on many things which at first appear dark, let us examine the ancient sources and fountains of Masonry, being limited, however, to those of which our order is the acknowledged successor. In this light, let us first consider the early history of Ægypt. We will go back, in thought, to the establishment of the Masonry of the Pyramids. We find that the real social and political life of that wonderful people, who dwelt on the banks of the Nile, whose majestic monuments of Masonry, worn by the sands of thousands of centuries, are the wonder of the world to-day, began with the

formation of the secret institution of Isis. The historian Herodotus informs us that Osiris and Isis were the parents of Ægyptian civilization, that they laid the foundations of society and government, made the laws, taught virtue and religion, and founded the Sacred Mysteries. It was, then, the genius and intelligence of these two master minds, who have been since placed as the grand and imposing "Life Spirits" of Ægyptian mythology, that grasped the needs of the people, and found the golden key to unlock the nation's greatness in the establishment of these ancient Masonic institutions, with their imposing ceremonies and wonderful visions of life.

The character of this ancient order, as it has been partially preserved in its initiatory rites and ceremonies, is a subject full of interest and instruction to the scholars of our craft. The initiatory rite was a mystic drama, representing the progress of man from barbarism to civilization, and his conflicts, through darkness and toil, to light and perfection. The ancient historian, Plutarch, describes the candidate as a seeker of light and purity. At first he wanders in winding ways, with his mind filled with uncertainty, perplexity and doubt. Painfully and with great labor he advances over rugged mountains and yawning chasms, plunged from time to time in profound darkness. Again he sees everthing under aspects the most terrible and awful. Next he is a suppliant in the presence of the divine Osiris, who holds in his hands the emblems of Justice and Benevolence. A miraculous light blazes upon him. He is closely questioned, all the acts of his life severely scrutinized, and, if worthy, he is allowed to pass to higher mysteries. Forward he moves, guided by an initiate disguised as a dog, through mysterious labyrinths, till he comes to a stream of water, where he is stopped by three terrible beings, who present him with liquid from the dark stream which he must soon cross, and bid him drink, addressing him in these words:

"Aspirant to the honor of a divine companionship, seeker after celestial truth, this is the water of forgetfulness! Drink to the oblivion of all your imperfections, and thus be prepared for the reception of the new revelations of virtue, truth and goodness with which you are soon to be honored."

The trembling neophyte drinks; the dark river is passed; the spectacles of terror disappear; a divine light breaks on his vision; new scenes appear, and smiling fields, flower-decked meadows, and enchanting visions of beauty, laden with the richest perfumes of "Araby the Blest," environ him. Sacred songs, and choruses of triumph, joy and love charm his ears. The sublime doctrines of sacred science, art and religion are given him, and visions of holiness and profound beauty delight his wondering eyes. He is baptized into a new life, and instructed in a divine science. He is now free and perfect. He is crowned and triumphant, and goes henceforth to commune with those pure spirits to whose companionship he has just been raised.

Such was the initiatory rite of that ancient Masonic order which gave birth and nourishment to Ægyptian civilization, and which, in the hands of the wisest and best of the nation, became a fountain of science, philosphy, art, virtue and religion.

As a second illustration, let us take the history of ancient Greece. How was her culture and civilization evolved from the gloom of barbarism? Whence came her perfection of art, science, philosophy, ethics

and letters? Her historians tell us that when ignorance and darkness were upon the people, a poet, philosopher, and seer came among them. That then was the genesis of her exalted civilization. Fourteen centuries before "the voice of one crying in the wilderness" of Judea, saying, "Repent ye, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand," was heard, the inspired song of the Thracian poet, orator and prophet was sung throughout the "Isles of Greece," and the son of Æger and Calliope had established the Masonry of "the Eleusinia." Grecian civilization commenced, not with wars and conquests, not with Olympic games and deeds of valor, but with Orpheus and the "Mysteries of Eleusis."

Brother Colby also considers, with appropriate illustrations, the "Philosophy of Masonic Secrets," and that also of "Masonic Work," closing with the following beautiful and appropriate peroration :

The ancients represented charity as a goddess seated in a chair of ivory, and wearing on her head a fillet of gold set with precious stones. She still reigns with us as a spiritual goddess. Her vesture is universal benevolence, and her jewels are the inestimable blessings of her bounty. Her throne is the human heart, where love dwells, unspotted by passion or selfishness, and from her sweet influences spring the purest and holiest sentiments of humanity.

Masonry teaches the existence of God. It points its disciples to one, the only true God, the Great Architect of the Universe, the Father of us all. As said by Samuel Lawrence : "It directs the contemplation of the Sons of Light to His works, as displayed in the diversified scenery of the earth, which is His footstool, and of the spacious firmament, which is the curtain of His dwelling-place." Masonry teaches the immortality of the soul, and its accountability to the Creator. It is this fact which lies at the foundation of Masonry, and I may say of all true religions. It is the central idea—the sun, around which revolve all our initiatory rites and ceremonies. The atheist, who raises his eyes to heaven and says there is no God, cannot become a Mason. The faith of the Sons of Light must be well founded. Masonry ever bows humbly before the Grand Architect of the Universe; it teaches life lessons of devotion to Him. It has been called the science of life, from its worship of the Great Giver and Preserver. It speaks His name only with reverence and awe. It acknowledges His power in all things. It feels His goodness, and instills in the heart an unfaltering trust in Him.

As a teacher of equality, brotherly love, charity, morality, and fundamental religion, the work of Masonry is as broad as humanity, and as deep as the fountains of civilization. In the words of an eminent brother, "It is an institution based on that never-failing charity which upholds universal love, calms the troubled sea of our evil passions, and leaves a smooth surface, in which all men, who are sincere and conscientious worshippers of God, and unexceptionable in moral deportment, may unite, bless each other, and rejoice in practically realizing the sublime sentiment that—

"'God hath made mankind one
Mighty Brotherhood ;
Himself their Master, and the
World His Lodge.'"

The value of Masonry to our times is incalculable. Its ideal is humanity regenerated and perfected, working in full sympathy and harmony with its Creator. This lofty ideal reveals the *True Philosophy of its Origin, its Secrets, and its Work.*

My friends and brothers,—May our noble order live on throughout all time; may its high ideal be crowned with all the added lustre and glories of succeeding ages, as a living reality; and in the "Sweet bye and bye," when you and I shall have been called to the Grand Lodge above, and laid our bodies to rest in the "Vale of Craftsmen," beneath the quiet of the stars, may there be a full accomplishment of its lofty mission, which, in the poetic diction of Dr. Arnold, is, "to retune the mystic harp of life to the sublimer melodies of love; to breathe upon the smoldering spark of charity, and expand it to a world-embracing flame; to cement again the broken links of the golden chain of harmony, and thus re-establish the unity of man."

NO REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Brother Edward K. Valentine.....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother William R. Bowen (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges.....62
Number of U. D. Lodges..... 6

NEVADA.

The 14th annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Nevada was held in the City of Virginia on the 11th, 12th and 13th days of June, A. D. 1878.

There are just twenty Lodges in the jurisdiction, and we note, by the report of the committee on credentials, that all were represented at this communication.

Present, also, M. W. Grand Master Merrill P. Freeman, who opened the Grand Lodge in Ample Form.

The address of the Grand Master is a good business message in which he pointedly attends to irregularities at home, and does not withhold his censure against the evil example and teachings of Foreign Jurisdictions. We rather like his style. He says of the Grand Orient of France, that:

They had already abolished the Grand Master and substituted a President; but, not content with the violation of so essential and important a landmark, they must needs go to the very fountain head, and cut off the branches, destroy the body, and dig up the roots, and abolish God himself. What would there be left of our beautiful ritual were we to be-

come so insane as to follow in the footsteps of this faction, and strike out all recognition of Him whose servants we are, and attempt to erase all allusion to Him? Let us hold fast to our firm belief in God and the immortality of the soul. That inspiration of Him whom we all adore. It is this belief that makes us welcome death, not as a grim tyrant, but as a kind messenger sent to translate us from this imperfect to that all perfect, glorious, celestial Lodge above.

Don't countenance an attempt to weaken so perfect a faith under the cloak of freedom of conscience. In consequence of this change, the Grand Lodge of Ireland has severed all connection with the Grand Orient of France, and the Grand Lodge of England has passed resolutions directing the Masters of Lodges holding under it not to admit any foreign brother, as a visitor, unless—

He is for abolishing non-affiliates, or how else could he apply to them, the French method suggested annexed?:

I am as pleased to inform you, as you are probably gratified to learn, that I have no suggestions to make as to non-affiliates, unless, possibly, you adopt the same course with them that the Grand Orient of France does with the name of God.

He says in reference to

DECISIONS.

The questions submitted to me for decision have not been numerous, and this I take as an evidence that the officers of Lodges are making more of an effort to determine for themselves the law on the great majority of cases that come up. If they will carefully study the Constitution, and the numerous decisions already rendered by different Grand Masters of this jurisdiction, they will find but little difficulty in deciding what is the law covering nearly all points that may arise.

In his opinion all decisions, made by the Grand Master and approved by the Grand Lodge, are of binding effect, until revoked by like authority. This opinion was elicited by a ruling in another jurisdiction, not named, restricting the operation of such decisions to the term of office of the Grand Master making them. We concur with G. M. Freeman in that matter, most decidedly.

A very prominent feature of these proceedings is

THE REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE

From the pen of Brother—P. G. M.—R. H. Taylor, Chairman. It is an able review of the doings of 47 Grand Lodges.

His notice of Alabama—Report of 1877—proceedings is full and critical.

We have no objections to urge against them except in respect to that portion devoted to our Report on Correspondence (regular.)

We think in that matter Brother Taylor has done us *grievous* wrong, for he takes advantage of our little PUN fizzle to dazzle us with witty pyrotechnics, of that ilk, 'till we are blinded and abashed at his brilliant corruscations; and then too he intimates that *we* did it. The truth is, *we volunteered*, but *he* conquered in the *pun*-ic war of 1877. We yield to defeat and crave generous terms of parole, with the right to retain our *side arms*, of *Pen, Ink* and *Scissors*.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Brother Henry L. Fish.....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother John D. Hammond.....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS:

Number of Chartered Lodges.....19
Number of U. D. Lodges..... 1

NEW BRUNSWICK.

In one volume we are favored with reports of the proceedings of several communications of the M. W. Grand Lodge of New Brunswick, viz:

Of three special communications, held severally May 29th, July 1st, and November 25th, A. D. 1878—all ceremonial occasions, the last convened for the installation of R. W. Benjamin R. Stevenson—elected Deputy Grand Master on the 25th of September, but absent from the installation service of that regular communication. The other *speciale* were devoted to the interesting ceremonies of "laying corner stone," and our Brethren of New Brunswick neglected no service or pageantry properly incident to the work assigned them.

The eleventh annual communication was held in the CITY OF ST. JOHN, on Wednesday, the 25th of September, A. D. 1878.

M. W. Grand Master Robert T. Clinch, presiding, whose annual address, though short, is yet full enough to embrace all needed local information, and acquaint us also with his intelligent opinions on current foreign irregularities. He speaks encouragingly of the progress made in rebuilding the sacred places laid waste by the terrible conflagration of 1877, which devastated the city of St. John in that year, and destroyed the Hall and records of the Grand Lodge.

He refers pointedly, but not harshly, to the Quebec–Scotland controversy, closing with this remark, indicating peculiar interest in the result:

We cannot view these proceedings without the greatest concern. The

case of one province in this confederation to-day may be that of another to-morrow. If the withdrawal by a Grand Lodge of the commission of her representative to a sister Grand Lodge—as Scotland has in the case of Quebec—is sufficient ground upon which to declare a Grand Lodge extinct and the territory formerly occupied by it "unoccupied," there will soon be an end of masonic government, and confusion and anarchy will take the place of order throughout our system.

Of the recent acts of the Grand Orient of France, he speaks regretfully but in language of decided condemnation.

This session of the Grand Lodge was continued through the 25th and 26th days of September, the business transacted being routine work, except the incident of several important amendments to their constitution, which were proposed and adopted.

Grand Master Clinch yielded the *gavel* at the expiration of his term of office, and was succeeded by M. W. Brother Robert Marshall, duly elected Grand Master on the evening of Wednesday, the 25th September.

The 12th annual communication convened on Wednesday, the 30th day of April, A. D. 1879, extending its session to include May 1st.

Grand Master Robert Marshall presided.

Twenty-one Lodges (of a total of 34) represented.

The Grand Master, in his address, announces with regret the death of P. G. Master Robert Gowan, on 30th January, 1879. He was 76 years of age, and had resided in the Province over 56 years. He says of the deceased:

Brother Gowan was no ordinary man. When able to do his duty, whether civil, social or masonic, no man could do it better. The country gratefully remembered his long and faithful service in the Crown Lands' Department and eased his declining years with a comfortable pension. Our Grand Lodge honored him with the highest honorary rank, that of a Past Grand Master, when the last of the Scottish Lodges, over which he ruled as Provincial Grand Master, united with us. Long before there was a central authority of any kind in the Province, Brother Gowan's views and opinions had all the force of authority, and what he thought of any particular matter largely influenced the decision upon that matter. A diligent student and strong in his own individuality, he never failed to have a decided view upon every question that came before him, and to any courteously expressed application for information or instruction, he never failed to cheerfully respond. Social, kind, charitable and genial, honorable in all his dealings, the good that he did will live after him and the remembrance of his many virtues will long linger in Grand Lodge.

Of local affairs he gives encouraging assurances, as follows:

In the Province harmony prevails, and if the lodges have not done a large amount of work during the year, they have made fair progress in the good work of our time honored institution.

Brethren, I rejoice to meet you at this the twelfth annual communication of Grand Lodge under auspices so favorable. In closing, permit me to recur to a subject which must be very dear to every true mason within our jurisdiction Past Grand Master B. Lester Peters, in his address, delivered in Grand Lodge on the 22nd January, 1868, remarked: "The erection of a Masonic Temple in this city, for the honor of our ancient craft, is a work in which I feel satisfied that the brethren in all parts of the province would be interested, and I trust that some measure will be adopted by Grand Lodge, having in view an object so desirable." From that time continued effort has been made, with greater or less success, and as a result we meet to-day, for the first time, in our own "hall." Much, however, remains yet to be done in order to the successful accomplishment of the great work so nearly completed, in the interests of which I would like to invite every brother within the province, whose name is on our roll of membership, and who has not yet given material aid to this undertaking, to at once subscribe for at least one share in the stock of the "New Brunswick Masonic Hall Company." If this appeal be generously responded to, the question of providing the necessary funds for the successful completion of the great work will have been accomplished and the craft in New Brunswick will have a building comparatively free from incumbrance, which any Grand Lodge in Canada might be proud to call its own.

GRAND LODGES RECOGNIZED.

A resolution recognizing the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory, and also that of New Mexico, was adopted.

In reference to the conflicting claims of the Grand Lodge of Colon, and the Grand Lodge of Cuba, the "Committee on Fraternal Relations" made an interesting and judicious report, concluding thus:

In the judgment of your committee it is not clear that the Grand Lodge of Colon was in such a condition as to justify the formation within the jurisdiction claimed by it, of another Grand Lodge.

It does not appear to the satisfaction of your committee that whatever changes were necessary in the system of masonic government in Cuba, could not have been made by reforms and improvements in the Grand Lodge of Colon.

Neither is it shown that the call for the formation of a new Grand Lodge was a general call to all the Cuban Lodges.

The Grand Lodge of New Brunswick has not entered into fraternal relations with any masonic government in Cuba. But it cannot withhold sympathy from the effort that is being now made by the Cuban brethren to lay solidly there the foundations of the craft. The Havana movement was undoubtedly well intended, its object being to free craft masonry from a dependence upon any other masonic system. But to recognize the Grand Lodge of Cuba would be—even if there were no other objections—to practically declare irregular the large number of lodges and brethren who in the troublous times of the late revolution on the island, and through many difficulties have been, and are now, steady in their

allegiance to the original authority of the Grand Lodge of Colon. Not to formally recognize either will be no disadvantage to the true interests of the craft in the island. It ought not to be difficult for the freemasons of Cuba to heal their differences, to form one reliable governing body for craft masonry according to the ancient constitutions and the present practices of the society, and thus present to the world the pleasing picture of unity and harmony in that fair and favored land.

The committee offers the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee be discharged from any further consideration of this subject.

Fraternally submitted.

B. LESTER PETERS,
WM. F. BUNTING.
JOHN V. ELLIS.

NO REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

GRAND OFFICERS:

M. W. Bro. Robert Marshall (elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. William F. Bunting (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges	33
Number of U. D. Lodges	1

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The report before us gives the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, at its semi-annual communication, held December 27th, A. D. 1877, and also those of its eighty-ninth grand annual communication, convened at CONCORD, Wednesday, May 15th, A. D. 1878.

John J. Bell, M. W. Grand Master, was present and presided over both of these assemblages.

At the annual communication 53 (of the 75) lodges were represented—56 lodges were represented at the semi-annual meeting.

The address of Grand Master Bell, as indeed may be also said of the business of the two communications under review, was confined to routine matters of no special interest outside of that jurisdiction. From this statement, however, we must except his remarks "in memoriam," especially those in reference to the death of "John Atherton Harris, Past Senior Grand Warden, and for some years Grand Secretary, well known and endeared to us all by his virtues and his eminent knowledge of Masonry and attachment to the craft, was called hence on the third day of September last."

One of his decisions too relates to a principal not, to our mind, clearly established. We can't approve his ruling in this instance :

A brother raised in a Lodge who does not sign the by-laws within six months, stands toward the Lodge precisely as any other non-affiliate, and can become a member only in the same manner as though made in another Lodge. If a case of mere carelessness or inadvertence, the Lodge may, in its discretion, remit the adjoining fee ; but that is within its discretion only.

In such case he may join another Lodge without a dimit, as having never been a member of a Lodge, he could not dimit therefrom. It is not necessary that he should become a member of the Lodge in which he was raised so as to get a dimit with which to join another Lodge.

An interesting

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE

Was submitted by Brother A. S. Wait, "for the committee." His report reviews the proceedings of 41 Grand Lodges exclusive of Alabama.

The Alabama report for 1877, we presume, was not received in time for review—was indeed like others mentioned by him, "too late."

We quote, with approval, a portion of Brother Wait's modest

CONCLUSION :

We have thus gone over the Masonic field so far as it has been presented during the year to our view, and we submit our work for the inspection of our brethren. That they will approve all we have done, is, of course, too much to hope ; that they may accept it as an honest effort at the performance of duty we would nevertheless trust. That the work has been an arduous one few will so fully realize as those who have been called upon for similar service. It has been our endeavor to give a correct general view of the condition and progress of the Order in sister jurisdictions, and of the work it is doing in our day and generation. Its numerical increase has been less during the period subjected to our review, than in some previous years. Its growth, however, has been on the whole such as to give to the Order a more firm and enduring character, while it has enlarged its capacity for usefulness to a greater degree than in periods when experiencing a more rapid increase of numbers. The material wrought into the building has been selected with greater care, and has been such as to add strength and symmetry to its now vast proportions, while causes of discord and weakness have been sought out and eliminated ; and we can safely affirm that the Masonic institution was never more truly prosperous, never more potent in its influence, and never doing a better work for humanity, than while we write these words.

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GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Solon A. Carter (elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Geo. P. Cleaves (elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... 75

NEW JERSEY

In our peregrinations during the summer, and invalid troubles generally, we unfortunately mislaid the only report received of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey for 1879, (it was the one kindly sent the writer as representative of that Grand Body, in which too he had noted his proposed comments,) and therefore regretfully defer our review of it 'till next report.

NEW MEXICO.

We have received and cordially welcome the proceedings of the first annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of New Mexico, held at SANTA FE, Monday, January the 6th, A. D. 1879.

Present, M. W. William W. Griffin, Grand Master, and the representatives of its four constituent Lodges.

We give annexed some interesting extracts, (one of them sadly so) from the address of the M. W. Grand Master, viz :

Brethren of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico:

I welcome you to this ancient city, in this, the First Annual Communication of our Grand Lodge, and extend to you a fraternal and cordial greeting.

Although the youngest Grand Lodge, and having but reached the first mile stone on the great highway of independent existence, yet thus early in our career are we forcibly reminded that we too, are mortal.

Our Grand South is vacant.

"It is the nature of our common humanity, that one by one, we should yield to the mandate of relentless death," and as the announcement that it is "High Twelve" falls upon our ears, obey the fore.ordained summons that must come to us all and enter upon the final rest.

Not one of us may go forth from this pleasant meeting and not feel that ere another, we too, may be with those who have entered upon the eternal refreshment; not one who will not unite in the sadness with which I announce to you the death of our Grand Junior Warden, R. W. Brother George W. Stebbins.

He died at his home in Las Vegas, New Mexico, on the seventeenth day of April, 1878, from the effects of a wound inflicted by the accidental discharge of a pistol on his person. Brother Stebbins was United States Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue, and was preparing to leave his home on a trip to a distant county in the discharge of his official duties, and had left his harnessed horse standing alone for a moment; the horse suddenly started and Brother Stebbins jumped and caught the lines, but

was jerked down and dragged by the running horse, the pistol was discharged and inflicted the wound which caused his death.

* * * * * * * * *

While we most highly appreciate the recognition that has been extended to us by the eighteen sister Grand Lodges mentioned, that of our mother, Missouri, has been, in some respects, the most gratifying and encouraging. She is the mother of every Lodge in New Mexico, and at her communication held two months after her children in this distant land of the ancient Montezumas had, after long and mature deliberation, determined to assume the responsibilities and cares of independent existence, she, with words of great maternal affection, took her daughter of New Mexico by the hand, and honored her by an introduction to the world.

For this we are most grateful, and were it not that our mother still assumes to exercise authority in this jurisdiction, after having acknowledged this Grand Lodge as the supreme Masonic authority within the territorial limits of New Mexico, we would feel that she had done all that she ought to do.

Her position in this respect is most extraordinary, and she stands almost alone in the position she has taken on a question of the gravest consequences to the fraternity at large, and I doubt not the logic of events will induce her to reconsider her action in this connection.

It is known to you that of the seven Lodges existing in this jurisdiction at the formation of this Grand Lodge, four had formally decided that the best interests of the fraternity demanded the formation of a Grand Lodge, while, in the convention which took that action, but three of the four were present by their representatives. The fourth had appointed such representatives, and immediately after the formation of the Grand Lodge took a charter from this body.

Of the three remaining Lodges, the charter of one, Kit Carson, at Elizabethtown, has been arrested by the M. W. Grand Master of Missouri, and by his orders its jewels, records, etc., have been forwarded to the R. W. Grand Secretary of that jurisdiction, and the other property of that Lodge, such as carpets, furniture, etc., has been sold, and the proceeds, $129.50, sent to the same officer by virtue of the same authority, and this action has been approved by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Missouri. She also continues to exercise jurisdictional powers over Silver City Lodge and Cimarron Lodge."

It seems to us that the Grand Lodge of Missouri, after the declaration of their Grand Master, in 1878, that—

"It has been a settled principle with all American Grand Lodges, that each State Grand Lodge holds exclusive jurisdiction within the State, and that no other Grand Lodge can grant Dispensations to form new Lodges in said territory, nor even exercise control over such Lodges as may originally have belonged to them after a Grand Lodge has been organized and formally recognized by sister Grand Jurisdictions;"

Must yield to the "logic of events," enforced by her own declaration of principles as above.

The Grand Master says of the—

CONDITION OF MASONRY

"It affords me great pleasure to be able to announce that peace and harmony have prevailed throughout this jurisdiction during the past seventeen months, and the administration of the Lodges has been harmonious and successful, and I have had no occasion to exercise extraordinary authority.

The reports from the various Lodges show that, although there has been no great increase in membership since the formation of this Grand Lodge, the number made Masons has been as great as was consistent with real prosperity, when all the circumstances are considered. Masonry in New Mexico is peculiarly situated; similar conditions exist no where else in the United States. Accessions to Masonry come alone from Americans and resident Europeans, who together constitute not more than ten to fifteen per centum of the entire population, and thus the increase of numbers is necessarily slow; but when we look to the future the prospect is more encouraging. The time is near when the railroad, which has already crossed our border on the north, will render us accessible to foreign capital and enterprise; and we will thus be relieved from that condition of isolation which has heretofore paralyzed all progress.

When our Territory becomes accessible, the outside world will learn that here in New Mexico is a virgin field for enterprise of the grandest proportions, where capital and energy can reap marvelous rewards. Our mountain ranges are full of the precious metals, and our prairies and mesas will furnish nutritious grasses to tens of thousands of cattle which the grazer can appropriate without price, and our valleys need but the application of intelligent effort to cause them to produce food and fruits for the millions yet to occupy them. With such resources made accessible and known by the building of railroads, we need have no fear as to he future of New Mexico; and with political prosperity that of Masonry is assured."

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We have appropriated to this interesting address all the space we can well devote to NEW MEXICO.

We must, however, recognize the well written and very acceptable

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE

presented by Brother David J. Miller for the commmittee. It is good as a beginning and promises excellence in the near future, when the diffidence of a first introduction shall have given place to the confidence of recognition from his colleagues, which we are certain is soon to cheer our new Brother with unmistakable assurances of approval.

Brother Miller, referring to our Report of 1877, says—

"In the Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence we find the new Grand Lodge of New Mexico mentioned favorably. The committee write as if it favored our recognition, but we find no mention of New Mexico in the proceedings proper. Grand Secretary Sayre, however, does 'recognize' us, we observe, to the extent of including in his list

of Grand Secretaries, the name and address of our's of New Mexico. We append that portion of the committee's report referring to the new Grand Lodge of New Mexico; wherein it will be noticed that the committee overlook the important circumstance that there were four—and not three only—constituent Lodges in our organization. As there were seven Lodges within the new jurisdiction, and Chairman Beers found but three of them actually represented in the organizing convention, may be this circumstance is what he refers to as the 'other conditions,' which, as no resolution of recognition was by him reported, it would seem he did not find 'equally favorable.' We will, probably, present some remarks explanatory in the premises, under the head of New York, concluding now, those under Alabama, with the extract above referred to.

It is true, that there was a doubt as to the propriety of recognition in 1877, which would have been removed if the explanation in this report, (given "under the head of New York,") had been, then, communicated to this Grand Lodge, viz:

"By correspondence we have learned the reason of the deferring of the matter of our recognition. It appears that the idea—a very sound one too—of the committee was that the approval of a majority of Lodges in a proposed new Grand Jurisdiction was essential and indispensable to the lawful organization of a Grand Lodge; and the committee, seeing that only three of the seven Lodges in the Territory were actually represented and participated in the organizing convention, fancied that we were not constitutionally or lawfully organized—and, indeed, it does not appear *prima facie* in the proceedings that more than three of the Lodges in fact participated; it was an inadvertent omission on the part of the Secretary of the Convention that he did not make the fact appear in his record that Union Lodge No. 480 had also appointed delegates to the convention, but that they did not attend."

The proceedings of 1878, however, (see special report on correspondence, p. 35), record in *ample form* our good will and "recognition."

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Brother William W. Griffin.....Grand Master
R. W. Brother David J. Miller.....Grand Secretary

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... 4

NEW YORK.

The 98th annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of this State convened "in the city of New York, on the afternoon of June 3d," and was opened in Ample Form by M. W. Grand Master Edmund P. Judson.

Six hundred and fifty-six (of its 717) Lodges were represented. We note, in addition to a long list of official members—Grand and Past Grand Officers—present, the attendance also of an unusually full list of "Representatives of other Grand Lodges," nearly all of the American and several foreign Grand Bodies being represented.

The annual address of Grand Master Edmund P. Judson fully sustains the well established reputation of New York for unexceptionable, and indeed model, deliverances of that description.

We shall quote fully from this address in illustrating the condition, "works and ways" of our New York Brethren.

The Grand Master says, in reference to a pending jurisdictional controversy with the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, known of record as "the Webotuck matter," that:

This question, as you all know, has been before the Grand Lodge for several years, and, although very simple in itself, has lead to a great many words without any practical result. The difficulty is between this Grand Lodge and that of Connecticut, and arises from the fact that the last named Grand Body undertook, by the operation of its own law, to terminate the membership of two brethren, members of Webotuck Lodge in New York. Much correspondence has passed between the two Grand Lodges, and it was expected that at the last meeting of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut some definite action would be taken. From their printed proceedings I find, however, that no notice of the question was taken except by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and that assumes that their action was well taken, or, in other words, that whatever is done by the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, is beyond question.

We have held, and do still hold, that no one can become a member of a New York Lodge, or dissolve his membership therein, except by the operation of the regulations made for that purpose by the Grand Lodge of New York. Hence it follows that the signing of a petition for a Dispensation to form a new Lodge, or revive an old one in Connecticut, does not and cannot disturb the New York membership of a signer, but that before he can become a lawful member of a Connecticut Lodge, he must previously dissolve his connections with the New York Lodge, in accordance with our regulations.

In the Webotuck case this has not been done, and the two members sought to be transferred are therefore still members of Webotuck Lodge.

In my correspondence with M. W. Brother Bullock, I find that he assumes that the membership of the Webotuck brethren was transferred by operation of law. This must mean one of two things, either that the law of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut is binding in New York Lodges to the extent of taking away their members, without their consent, or that there is a general law to that effect. We most emphatically deny both propositions. It is self-evident that no Grand Lodge can make a law to have effect beyond the boundaries of its own jurisdiction; and equally clear that there never has been any assent to a law or principle that should unseat the members of Lodges by other jurisdictions without the consent of such Lodge. There can, therefore, be no possible justifi-

cation of the act of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, in receiving and retaining under its jurisdiction, notwithstanding our protest, two brethren, members of a Lodge in New York.

The above seems to us a fair statement of the question involved in this dispute, and we can discover no defect in the "irresistible logic" of its conclusions, under the accepted theory, and established usages of American Grand Lodges.

He makes an important suggestion in the following recommendation, viz:

I would suggest that whenever hereafter an amendment to the Constitution or Statutes is finally adopted, it be made the duty of the Grand Secretary immediately after the close of the Annual Communication, and in advance of the regular publication, to issue a circular to all the Lodges calling attention to the fact, that the law has been changed or amended, and giving the amended text in full. It would seem that if this simple expedient were adopted, not only would the fact of any change be promptly brought to the notice of the brethren, but that many, perhaps involuntary, errors would be avoided, and the Grand Master be saved the labor of writing many letters to explain what ought to be known to every brother, as well as to himself.

The following extract will indicate somewhat the condition of the craft and repeat the expression of the Grand Master's charitable views on suspensions for non-payment of dues. We indorse heartily his remarks on that subject, viz:

It will be found from an examination of the reports of the District Deputies, that the falling off in our membership during the past year is largely due to striking from the roll for the non-payment of dues. It is, of course, impossible that the Deputies should know the facts in each case, but may it not be that many brethren, unable to pay, and perhaps too proud to acknowledge the fact, have been among the number thus unaffiliated? and is it not an act of unkindness, to say nothing of the ties that bind us together, to use this measure—clearly within the powers of a Lodge—without the closest scrutiny, and so far as may be, the most absolute certainty, that when the law is executed, we are not doing a wrong, alike to the brother disciplined, to the Lodge and to the spirit of Masonry.

My own experience convinces me that there are many cases of neglect on the part of individuals who can pay as well as not, but it may be suggested at the same time, that an indiscriminate application of the law may and does work injustice.

It is a familiar fact to most of us, that during the years through which we have just passed, many of our brethren have been the victims of misfortune, and while some have succumbed, others, and I believe the larger number, concealing perhaps a heavy burden, have with manly courage pressed on in the fight to preserve their credit and good name. In this emergency the sympathy of those to whom they are bound by the mystic tie, in an especial manner, nerves and sustains them in their fearful

trial, and this they should have in the fullest measure. The imposition of a penalty in such cases is unjust. It were better that those of us who escape this trial should be taxed a trifle beyond the average amount, rather than at our hands an injustice should be done to the humblest of our brethren struggling in the battle of life. Let me be understood as not making any positive assertion, but only a suggestion, that in the large number subjected to discipline there may have been many cases of brethren, who had their circumstances been known, would have been excepted from exclusion, and this leads me to the suggestion that in our relations to each other as members of Lodges, or of the craft, we fail in many instances to cultivate that near friendship and regard for each other that ought to especially distinguish us. Masonry, my brethren, is neither a life nor health association ; it does not hold forth any pecuniary inducements to its initiates, but when a man has been admitted to our intimacy as a Fraternity he should be a BROTHER indeed, and the ties that bind us together should only be severed when we find on the part of the individual a remissness which justice to the Lodge, to the Craft and to ourselves, will not allow us to overlook.

He speaks encouragingly, as follows, of the

HALL AND ASYLUM FUND.

This is a subject of abiding interest to every Mason, not only for what has been achieved in the past, but for the almost inconceivable possibilities of the future. The past is hallowed by the toils and sacrifices of the brethren, many of whom have passed to the eternal rest. Let us hope that the future will furnish a sufficient reward, and let us who are spared to continue the work, renew our vows to labor on, until our indebtedness being removed, we may enter upon the reward, in the possession of ample means to create a charity fund, the magnificence of which shall not be equaled in the world. I am fully aware that this burden has laid heavily upon the Craft, but I rejoice that it will grow lighter with the reviving prosperity in business circles, and the cheering effect of a yearly approach to the end, and to our entrance upon that phase of the undertaking, to secure which, all our labor has been performed and all our sacrifices made.

The fact that the control and responsibility of the Fund is now in the hands of brethren, selected by yourselves, whose competency for the task no one is disposed to question, and to whose careful and zealous attention to duty, I most cheerfully testify, would make it invidious for me to forestall their report, which will be presented in due time. Let me only entreat you to uphold their hands, and by all lawful means to encourage them in their arduous and exacting labors, not only as a recognition of their faithful services, but as a direct means of shortening the time between our present embarrassment and the day when the last debt is paid we shall stand enfranchised, prepared for the great work of benevolence that is beyond.

The FUND alluded to, is represented by the total cost (or value?) of the Masonic Temple, say **$1,590,262 96**, subject to a debt lien of

($744,513 09 in 1878) **$705,088 74**, as stated in the Trustees report of 1879.

We wish the Grand Lodge safe and speedy relief from this burden of debt, for then only will she be *potent* "for the great work of benevolence that is beyond."

He is quite pronounced against the proposed amendments to the Constitution—one "striking out the per diem allowance"—another changing the manner of representation from Lodges to Districts—another authorizing "dual membership," etc., and after noting his objections to each proposition, thus concludes his remarks on that topic, viz :

As the result of my examination of the proposed amendments, I am constrained to recommend their rejection ; and let me say further, that the prevailing tendency to offer crude and ill-digested amendments to the law is one more to be honored in the breach than the observance. If adopted, they require a new edition of the Constitution every year, and what is infinitely worse, they leave the great mass of the brethren uncertain as to the law and lead them sometimes into serious errors, because they may have inadvertently consulted the wrong edition. No worse evil can come upon a nation, community, or association than uncertainty of the law ; and, of all associations, this of ours, with fixed, immutable principles, ought to be the least subject to the difficulties arising from merely experimental legislation.

The Grand Master, in his address, discussed two questions, presented to him officially, but did not authoritatively *decide* them, preferring to submit them to the Committee on Jurisprudence for interpretation. That committee reported the following decisions thereon, which essentially coincide with the Grand Master's opinions, previously expressed, viz :

The Standing Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence respectfully report, that our attention was naturally first claimed by the important topics so fully and ably presented and discussed by Grand Master Judson in his address.

The subject of privileged membership is one which is not devoid of difficulty ; but the great principle upon which the determination of the question is to rest is distinctly and clearly pointed out by the Grand Master, and that is, how far and in what cases a By-Law is a contract between a Lodge and its members. All will admit that it is essential to a contract that there must be *mutuality*, or in other words a *consideration* to give it vitality as such. The one under examination, and which is cited by the Grand Master in its exact words, it appears to us does not possess this vital feature.

Each member was bound to contribute a stated periodical sum for the interest of the Lodge, and thus indirectly for that of the Craft at large, which is known by the technical name of *dues*. A Lodge chooses out of mere grace and its own free-will to adopt a By-Law by which that class of its members, who have "borne the heat and burden of the day," who have discharged their whole duty faithfully for ten years, shall be re-

lieved in the future from the payment of other dues than those accruing to the Grand Lodge. It requires no new act; it is not even a pledge of fidelity for the future; but is upon the trust that fidelity in the past is a guaranty for the future. Times change, the generosity which has curtailed a main source of revenue on which it is dependent for contingent current expenses finds its resources exhausted, and is compelled to revive the old fountain of income or tax its members to meet exigencies of the case. But in such restoration of former dues is no breach of contract, and not even a breach of moral good faith. Like the parent who gives a gratuity to his son of ripe age out of affectionate generosity, but finds himself, under the pressure of the times, compelled to curtail his too exuberant bounty extended to one under his own roof-tree, revokes the gift, and simply says he shall in the future as in the past require remuneration for that which he has freely given from love and affection. But suppose the Lodge had adopted a By-Law that upon the payment of any sum however small, not alone the traditional, typical, "penny-a-day," but even "a penny-a-year" in advance for any period however brief, and performed such condition, there would have been a contract having the element of mutuality, and based upon consideration; but this By-Law lacking those elements, and therefore creating no *vested rights*, it was therefore perfectly competent for such Lodge to alter, modify, or repeal such By-Law, and we subjoin a resolution accordingly.

Another subject suggested by the Grand Master, relates to the prerogative of a Master in opening his Lodge. It appears to us to involve only the simple proposition, whether the opening of a Lodge is a part of its work. If it be so, and we conceive there can be no difference of opinion upon that point, then he clearly has a right to delegate that power to any skillful brother present as he might as to any other portion of the work, without violating any prerogative of the Wardens, or either of them, whatever might be urged upon the score of fraternal or official courtesy. We present our conclusion in the form of a resolution, regretting again our inability to discuss more at length the reasons which have induced it.

Contributions for relief of the yellow fever sufferers in 1878, $19,086.65.

We feel inclined, as often as we renew our familiarity with the reports and proceedings of the New York Grand Lodge, to renew also our commendations of the deliverances of its officers and committees. It seems to us that the reports of R. W. Grand Secretary James M. Austin, of the "Asylum Fund Trustees" and of "the Committee on Jurisprudence" are especially noteworthy, if, indeed, it is proper to specify the work of any of the craftsmen engaged in the useful labors of this important communication.

RECOGNITION.

The following resolutions were reported by the Committee on Jurisprudence (the matter having been referred to them by request of the Committee on Correspondence) and adopted, viz:

4. *Resolved*, That we fraternally hail and fully recognize the right of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico to be admitted into the circle of the Grand Lodges of the world as a sovereign and independent Grand Lodge, wishing for it now, and in all future time, peace and prosperity.

5. *Resolved*, That we in like manner hail and recognize the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory, with like cordial kind wishes and salutations; but from considerations connected with the civil government of the Territory, we forbear expressing any opinion as to the extent of its territorial jurisdiction.

THE REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE,

With its wealth of useful Masonic knowledge and interesting news, is presented by the Committee, composed of Brothers John W. Simons, Stephen H. Johnson, and M. Pinner.

This review embraces the proceedings of 50 North American Grand Lodges, and gives also the fullest and most instructive reports from the Grand Bodies governing the Craft in the Eastern Hemisphere, that we have anywhere seen.

So interesting is that portion of the review that we long to transfer it unabridged to our report, but it is to us "forbidden fruit."

The Alabama Report for 1878 is briefly reviewed. The address of G. M. Henry C. Armstrong is commended as a "lengthy and able resume of the year's business." The action of the Grand Lodge in reference to the Grand Orient of France is approved.

From this report we gather that there has been no material change in the attitude of the "German Grand Lodge League" towards New York in the controversy, so long pending, between these Grand Bodies, involving jurisdictional rights.

Brother Simons thus concludes a very able review of this German controversy—after having happily exposed the vascillating course of the LEAGUE in deciding the question at issue differently, in its application to their own territorial disputes, (instancing especially its course in 1874 towards the Lodges of ALSACE in their struggle to remain affiliated with the GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE,) from the principles now applied to American jurisdictional claims:

"There remains but one other point to be noticed. The resolution adopted by the League states that the German Grand Lodges would never protest if the Grand Lodge of New York were to admit as visitors brethren from Lodges which they do not recognize as lawful, etc.

This part of the resolution is fully answered in Brother Couch's letter. If we concede the right to Grand Lodges to decide upon the lawfulness of Lodges existing in *our* territory, it would be a virtual abandonment on our part of the right of jurisdiction.

It is supposed by some brethren in Germany, learned in the law, that the Prussian Edict of 1798, extending governmental protection to the Masons of that kingdom, is superseded by a law, passed within the last decade, we believe, permitting secret societies to meet under certain restrictions. Of this law the two brethren, formerly members of the Grand Lodge "zu den drei Weltkugeln," took advantage to establish a Lodge in Berlin, as stated. If the Government permits this Lodge to exist, it would, Masonically, rest upon a better foundation than the Negro Lodges of the United States: for, aside of all other questions, the two brethren, who established the Lodge, were at least lawfully made Masons, which is not the case with the members of the Negro Lodges in this country. If we should recognize this Berlin Lodge and hold Masonic communication with it, we think the Berlin Grand Lodges would most likely raise their voices against it, and again become as strong adherents to the principle of the right of jurisdiction as they were but a short time ago.

The Grand Lodge of the State of New York has existed since 1783, and her assertion to the right of jurisdiction is coeval therewith. Her first written enunciation of the principle is recorded in her minutes of Dec. 6, 1786, in the following language:

'Resolved, That no Lodge can exist in this State but under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.'

To this resolution she has consistently adhered, and from it she will never deviate. This is certainly in striking contrast with the kaleidoscopic changes this principle has been subjected to in the Grand Lodges of Germany.

If the Grand Lodge League persist in maintaining the position it has assumed in regard to this question, it must result in non-intercourse between it and the North American Grand Lodges; and, painful as that step would be for the Grand Lodge of New York, she will nevertheless be forced to proclaim it. We have never interfered with the rights of other Masonic Jurisdictions, and we will not permit others to prescribe to us laws and principles for the government of our domain."

His views in reference to the Scotland-Quebec controversy are coincident with our own, and are so well expressed that we copy and adopt, what he says on that subject in his review of

QUEBEC.

"It is certain that Lodges of the Scottish Register existed in the Province of Quebec prior to the establishment of the Grand Lodge of that name; that they so existed with the full consent of the Grand Lodge of Canada, holding acknowledged jurisdiction over the Province of Quebec until it was yielded to the new Grand Lodge, and that these Lodges, or some of them, refused to join in the formation of the Quebec Grand Lodge. It is clear that the Grand Lodge of Canada could not yield a jurisdiction it did not possess, and while the Quebec body might demand the obedience of these Lodges, it could not in the face of these precedents enforce it. But, on the other hand, Scotland, having recognized the existence of an independent Grand Lodge in Quebec, could neither in honor nor equity violate that recognition by founding new Lodges in territory

it had yielded, *ipso facto*, by such recognition; for, having freely surrendered the territory and allowed it to be occupied by a recognized masonic power, the ground could no longer be claimed as vacant, nor would the withdrawal by the Grand Lodge of Scotland of its previous recognition, affect the validity of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, nor give it (Scotland) the right to trespass on occupied territory. In this respect the action of the Grand Lodge of Scotland would have been just the same had it granted warrants for Lodges to be located in New York or Pennsylvania, and it commits the same offense against established rights as the Grand Lodge of Hamburgh has done as against us. On this ground the American Grand Lodges must, to be consistent with their own records, make common cause with Quebec. But, on the other hand, Elgin Lodge having existed in the Province of Quebec before the establishment of the Grand Lodge of that name, general masonic opinion outside of the United States is against the right of the Quebec Grand Lodge to demand its allegiance; nor is that opinion without its advocates in this country, as in the cases of New Mexico and Dakota. While we have been among the most persistent advocates of the American doctrine of Grand Lodge sovereignty, still we fail to perceive how it can be made of general acceptation except in the cases of already established and acknowledged Grand Lodges, where the planting of a new Lodge by outside authority is an invasion of a previously established jurisdiction. To go beyond this would seem to be the declaration of a principle that can not be enforced without a general disruption of amicable relations between the masonic powers of the old world and those of the new.

Our conclusion, therefore, is that this difficulty should be settled by a return to the original status; that is to say, that Scotland should withdraw its charters granted since the erection of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and that the latter should allow Elgin Lodge to continue until in due time it may find its best interest to lie in uniting with the local authority. We are satisfied that any other disposition of the case will only lead to long and perhaps bitter dissension, which will redound neither to the benefit of the parties nor to the good name of the Craft, and we therefore respectfully urge that this disposition be made."

We extract, also from the New York Report on Correspondence, the following information respecting the condition of Masonry (in its Government at least) in SPAIN, viz:

"There exist in that country now, three Grand Masters, who oppose each other. Brother Juan Antonio Perez Ricardo's title to the office of Grand Master is reported to be the best. The Grand Orient of France has recognized the Marquis de Sevane as Grand Master. The third Grand Master is the former Minister of State Dr. Praxedes Mateo Sagasta; his election was announced to foreign Grand Orients in a letter, dated April 6, 1876, by Brother Espartero, Deputy of the Grand Master Ricardo; the latter, however, states in a letter, dated June 10, 1876, that Espartero had resigned his position on the 10th July, 1875, and had voluntarily withdrawn from masonry. Ricardo further states, that Sagasta's election was accepted by imaginary representatives of Lodges, and that it was null and void under all the circumstances.

The following statement we give as received—.

Grand Orient National d'Espagne, at Madrid, one hundred and fifteen Lodges; Grand Master, Marquis de Sevane.

Gran Logia de Espana, Madrid, one hundred and two Lodges; Grand Master, Dr. Praxedes Mateo Sagasta.

Gran Oriente de Espana, Madrid; Grand Master, Brother Juan Antonio Perez."

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Brother Charles Roome.....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother James M. Austin (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges.....717
of which 28 Lodges work "in the German tongue," and 6 use other Foreign tongues (French, Spanish or Italian).

NORTH CAROLINA.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of North Carolina held its 92d Annual Communication in the city of Raleigh, beginning Tuesday evening, December the 3d, A. D. 1878.

Present and presiding, M. W. Grand Master Horace H. Munson.

One hundred and forty-two only (of 237 working) Lodges represented.

The business, mostly routine work, occupied the attention of the Grand Lodge until Friday morning, the final session, when it was closed.

The Grand Master's Address, while not neglecting other important interests, gives decided and deserved prominence to an enterprise which, we are pleased to know, is about to reward the zeal and persistent efforts of our Brethren of North Carolina with the full fruition of their hopes in its behalf, the success and *establishment* of their

ORPHAN ASYLUM.

We quote a few paragraphs from the interesting report of the committee in charge of that institution, as evidences alike of its prosperity and usefulness, viz:

"The statistics, from our last report to the end of November, are as follows—

Admitted	55
Discharged	43
Adopted	7
Ran Away	4
Number present	125

Receipts	$7,781.28
Cash reported last year	78.37
	$7,859.65
Disbursements	7,796.06
Cash on hand	$ 63.59

The averege number during the year, has been abont 130.

It will be seen that we are gradually learning how to accomplish a larger amount of good with a smaller amount of money. It is confidently believed that, during the next year, 125 orphans can be supplied with healthful food, comfortable clothing and thorough instruction, at an average expense of $4 a month for each.

During the year, one discharged orphan has completed a course of study in a prominent college and returned to teach at the Orphan Asylum. It is expected that two others will complete their courses in similar institutions during the next year.

HEALTH.

We have cause to be profoundly grateful to the beneficent Author of Life for another year of uninterrupted health. We have had neither death nor serious sickness. To promote health we employ frequent bathing, scraping, sweeping and scouring; the ploughing under of decayed matter, and the copious application of lime and ashes.

Since the opening of the institution it has received 448 orphans, the average per annum being 130. Of these 218 have neither father nor mother living. About one-third have been the children of Masons. The number now in the Asylum is 126. In reply to an inquiry as to what proportion of the orphans had received eligible situations upon leaving the institution, the Superintendent replied that all had, and that the demand was far greater than he could fill. Many of the children are adopted by persons who have no children of their own. Nineteen have been adopted into respectable and desirable homes. Three such applications were filled during our visit, and we can testify to the happiness seemingly in store for the children who were supplied to the applicants.

As is known, the Grand Lodge discouraged the idea of attempting to teach them trades while at the Asylum, for the reason that it had not adequate means to erect suitable workshops, buy tools, and secure the services of competent workmen; and for the further reason that the tender age at which the children are received and discharged, viz: from 8 to 16 years, renders it impossible for them to attain any degree of proficiency while at the Asylum. Still it has been the uniform practice of the Superintendent, upon securing homes for the children, to prefer situations where they can learn trades. Sixteen have been put to the learning of useful trades since the opening of the institution."

THE REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE

Is by Brother Geo. W. Blount, for committee.

He acknowledges the receipt of the proceedings of some 43 Grand

Lodges, including the report of Alabama for 1877, but, though referring to them in kind and fraternal general remarks, he declines the task of special comment on each, saying in one place :

The following proceedings have been looked through, hurriedly, it is true, but with a great deal of pleasure to myself; time and pre-occupation preclude such a review as will furnish anything like a proper idea of the wealth therein contained. A *sparse meal* must suffice for this time.

And in another, that :

Note has been made on the proceedings of the various Grand Bodies referred to, but the labor was one so far beyond expectation that your committee did not begin in time to have the comments drawn out in proper form for embodiment in this report, and it is hoped with these few lines your committee will be excused further labor, and the Grand Lodge saved the expense of printing eighty or one hundred pages additional.

We call you out Brother Blount, and insist upon a better illustration of North Carolina's proverbial *hospitality*, energy, and talent.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. William R. Cox (elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Donald W. Bain (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges.....237

NOVA SCOTIA.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, held its 13th annual communication, at Halifax, commencing Wednesday the 5th day of June, A. D. 1878.

Present, M. W. John W. Laurie, Grand Master. Forty-nine constituent Lodges represented, and many Past Grand Officers and Grand Representatives in attendance.

The Grand Master's address reports briefly his official acts, and makes several suggestions of importance in that jurisdiction. Among them the following complaint or hint is directed towards the

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA :

Owing to the retention of the title "Grand Lodge of Canada," by the Grand Lodge which really has jurisdiction only in the Province of Ontario, much misapprehension exists as to our position and standing. The Title "Grand Lodge of the Province of Nova Scotia" is readily per-

verted to that of "Provincial Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia," and as Nova Scotia is politically a part of Canada, so it is at once assumed that our Grand Lodge holds under the jurisdiction of the so-called Grand Lodge of Canada.

The title "Canada" is retained, but the territory thereby represented is totally different from that which bore the name at the time when the Grand Lodge so designated was organized, and it appears somewhat unfortunate that this was not seen and a title assumed in accordance with the territorial limits of the jurisdiction. If our sister Grand Lodge, with whom all our intercourse has been harmonious, could adopt the political title of the jurisdiction over which she has sway, much misconception and many mistakes would be avoided.

A committee of the Grand Lodge had collected, and presented at this communication, a large number of interesting and valuable documents relating to the early history of Freemasonry in Nova Scotia, e. g.:

The Committee have secured the original Warrant granted by Lawrence Dermott, bearing date June 2d, 5784, appointing John George Pyke, Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, John Snelling, Senior Provincial Grand Warden, Daniel Wood, Junior Provincial Grand Warden, and they have also collected the continuous line of Minutes of Proceedings of the Provincial Grand Lodge thus formed, up to 5866, when the name was changed to the "District Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia," and the committee are in possession of the minutes of the same up to 5869, when the Masonic Bodies under the various authorities holding jurisdiction in the Province united.

The Committee have also the Grand Lodge Registration Book, containing names of candidates raised between 5784 and 5819, and the Register (and copy) of Warrants issued between 5784 and 5828, as well as the Letter Books from 5792 to 5825, inclusive.

The Committee have been kindly furnished with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Scotland, from its formation in 5849, up to 5866, together with the Warrants which were returned by the several Lodges seceding at that time and forming themselves into an Independent Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia.

The Grand Lodge adopted an edict or resolution enjoining TEMPERANCE, and also appointed a special committee to "report on the best means of carrying out the intention of the resolution"—*i. e.* in the language of the resolution, "to take some decided step towards an organization, *in connection with the Craft*, pledged to total abstinence!" Will it succeed? and is it not an innovation?

The resolution denouncing the *ungodliness* of the Grand Orient of France is appropriate and positive.

THE REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE,

Made by R. W. Brother A. H. Crowe, for committee, is an excellent re-

view of the proceedings of 49 Grand Lodges, and includes those of Alabama for 1877, which are suitably and fraternally considered.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. J. Wimburn Laurie (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Benjamin Curren (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... 67

OHIO.

The "stated meeting" of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Ohio, its 69th annual communication, was convened at DAYTON, October (10th?) 15th, A. D. 1878, and "a Lodge of Master Masons was opened by M. W. Grand Master and Grand Officers in Ample Form."

Present, with "elected," "appointed" Past Grand Officers and Grand Representatives, the representatives of 430 constituent Lodges.

The proceedings inform us (and we quote this announcement because of its *peculiar* phraseology,) that "Brother W. M. Cunningham, M. W. Grand Master, communicated in writing, and read the ("following") statement of his official acts during the recess of the Grand Lodge, and information upon subjects of Masonic interest."

The address alluded to is a very good one, thoughtful, practical, and well arranged.

He is thankful for manifold individual blessings, "and for the prosperity of our ancient institution within this State," and adds that:

> Peace and harmony have prevailed to an unusual extent within the lodges of this jurisdiction during the past year, and whilst there have been a few troubles within a few of the subordinate lodges, yet good counsels have in every instance prevailed, and harmony has been restored therein.
>
> In accordance with our regulations I have the honor to submit herewith the report of my official acts during the past year.

He issued numerous dispensations for "elections and installations"—67 in all—and THREE dispensations for new Lodges. Made many "official visitations," remarking in reference to them that:

> The courteous conception, fraternal greeting, and hearty welcome extended to me officially and personally, the elegant banquets of which I have partaken, the generous hospitalities I have enjoyed *in all instances*, and the "good work" witnessed, renders the especial mention of any, an impossibility within the limits of this report. In this connection,

however, I may be permitted to mention, as a precedent worthy to be followed in any similar case, the presentation by Kilwinning Lodge at their annual banquet, of a gold medal to Willis Shuber, a young lad who, at the risk of his own life, had plunged into the Ohio River to rescue a drowning woman.

He opposes hurried legislation, and gives instances of the evils resulting from their recent requirement, restricting the session of the Grand Lodge to "two days," his closing remarks on that subject we quote annexed:

Many of the members of the Grand Lodge of each year are "new members," and as the social relations of Free Masonry are second only in importance to its moral teachings, a three day session is at least a short enough period in which they can become acquainted with their fellow-members and the routine work of this Grand Lodge.

If the committees of this Grand Lodge were appointed for the succeeding instead of the current year, and together with the Grand officers were required to meet and consider routine work one day in advance of the session of the Grand Lodge, a two day session *might* suffice. But our members and our lodges should know more of each other, fraternal and official visitations should be more frequent. I have found lodges "among the hills" in sparsely settled districts, or at "cross roads," to be as thoroughly "up in the work," and in the general business of the craft as perhaps the more wealthy or larger bodies in cities, or more favorable localities. It is *not the location* that makes men good Masons, or that in all cases, makes a prosperous lodge; but it is in the selection of the material of which Masons are made and in the selection of energetic intelligent officers.

The contributions to the yellow fever relief fund were very liberal, aggregating the sum of $6,585 66.

We do not understand the following remarks of the M. W. Grand Master, (quoted from his annual address) as the proceedings of 1877 did not reach us. But presume they refer to some of Brother Grand Secretary Caldwell's rhetorical flourishes, added to the record of his defeat to break the fall of the "new day new duty" ACHILLES. Respecting the interpolations complained of, the Grand Master says:

Complaint has been made by brethren in different parts of the State concerning the compilation of the Printed Proceedings of this Grand Body for 1877.

As, upon examination, it will be found that the *so-called* Printed Proceedings of this Grand Lodge for the year mentioned, contains so much matter therein entirely foreign to the frequently expressed views of this Grand Body, that the title "Proceedings of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, of the State of Ohio," is an evident misnomer. In this connection also, the injection of personal opinions in the "head lines" of the daily transactions of this Grand Body, whilst it was in session, as on pages 38 and 39, the insertion of the

individual opinions of the compiler in vindication of his personal views upon questions heretofore settled by this Grand Lodge, and the compilation of matter contrary to its previously expressed views concerning bodies with which this Grand Body is not in communication, is a breach of Masonic etiquette that should not be permitted to pass unnoticed at my hands.

The proceedings before us do not contain the

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE,

Promised in the following "minute," viz:

Brother Caldwell, from Committee on Foreign Communications, asked further time to complete his report, in consequence of close engagement during the last month, in receiving returns and dues; also in collecting and forwarding contributions of the craft in Ohio to sufferers from the yellow fever in the South, and that the same be submitted to M. W. Grand Master for its publication with the printed proceedings.

Which was adopted.

Possibly it was issued as a supplement to the volume of proceedings, and was not generally distributed.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Wm. M. Cunningham (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Jno. D. Caldwell (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... 472

OREGON.

The 28th annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Oregon, was convened in the city of Portland, on Monday the 10th day of June, A. D. 1878.

Present, M. W. Grand Master Robert Clow. Fifty-seven chartered (and 1 U. D.) Lodges represented.

The Grand Master, in his appropriate annual address, alludes to the condition of the Craft as generally prosperous, but warns against approaching financial troubles as follows:

FINANCES.

The revenues of the Grand Lodge for the current year amount in the aggregate to the sum of $4,257 30, and the disbursements for all purposes foot up a total of $5,626 60. From this it will be seen that the expenses

are $1,369 30 in excess of our income. Taking the receipts and disbursements of the present year as a basis upon which to estimate our future revenues and expenditures, it is very evident that unless our expenses are largely curtailed, or our annual dues increased, it is only a question of a few years when the reserve fund now on hand will be completely exhausted.

He protests against the recent constitutional amendments adopted by the GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE as unmasonic and revolutionary.

He refers to the Grand Lodge for action, the remonstrance of the Grand Lodge of Scotland against the Grand Lodge of "New South Wales." (No action was taken thereon by the G. L.)

The business of this communication was transacted with commendable thoroughness and dispatch, and the Grand Lodge, after listening to an able and appropriate ORATION delivered by Brother H. H. Gilfry, Grand Orator, closed its labors on the afternoon of the third day of its session.

THE REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE,

Made by Brother S. F. Chadwick, is very good, but short. It reviews the proceedings of 23 Grand Lodges—Alabama report for 1877 being included.

Other reports named by him, numbering 16 in all, were received too late for review, and he promises to include them in his next year's work.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Brother Robert Clow (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother Rocky P. Earhart (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges.....61
Number of U. D. Lodges..... 1

PENNSYLVANIA.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania held its regular quarterly Communications for 1878, at Philadelphia, on the 6th of March, the 5th of June, 4th of September and 4th of December, consecutively, at each of which Communications (for reasons hereinafter stated) the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, Brother Michael Nisbet, presided in the absence of the Grand Master.

The annual Grand Communication was held at Philadelphia, December 27th, A. D. 1878.

We are compelled by circumstances beyond our control, (health and space alike conspiring against us,) unwillingly to limit our review of the interesting proceedings before us to a few extracts from the (acting) Grand Master's address, and the Report on Correspondence.

We extract from the address the following interesting items. Alluding to the absence of the Grand Master, R. W. Brother Nisbet says:

"He who of right should have presided over you and addressed you to-day is not here.

When, just one year ago, Brother James M. Porter was duly installed Right Worshipful Grand Master, his cup of ambition was full. With a feeling of justifiable pride in the fruition of his hopes in attaining the Oriental Chair, he delivered his salutatory address, marked by its eloquence and replete with Masonic wisdom, in which he expressed the manner in which the affairs of the Craft in this jurisdiction would be administered during his term of office. But man proposes and God disposes, and the honor conferred upon him, like Dead Sea fruit, turned to ashes on his lips; for when Brother Porter, after the Grand Lodge closed, left this room, he left it never to return to it as the Grand Master, as in a short time thereafter he was stricken with a malady that incapacitated him from performing the duties of his station—a malady from which he has not yet recovered—and which has caused him to decline the re-election which, under more favorable circumstances, would have been unanimously conferred upon him."

They dispense charity in that jurisdiction on the principle prevailing in Alabama, (though we fail utterly to assimilate to them in the extent of their benefactions).

On this subject the acting Grand Master speaks as follows:

"Our system of charity differs considerably from what is considered Masonic charity in some of the jurisdictions, where they give a sum of money to a needy brother, and then notify his Lodge of the amount given with a direct request for its return, or else so strong a hint that its return would afford satisfaction to the grantor, that it amounts to the same thing.

This appears more like making a loan than bestowing charity, for if the Lodge to which the needy Brother belongs returns the amount given him. it becomes the giver and not the body that temporarily granted the assistance.

With us the applicant has but to prove his or her right to apply, and that they are in need, and assistance is granted them unconditionally. Large sums of money are disbursed every year by the subordinate Lodges to needy applicants in addition to what is given by the two Grand Lodge Funds, and in no instance is it ever expected to be returned from any source whatsoever.

He likes neither electioneering for office (Masonic) nor the practice of testing fitness by local considerations:

"Preceding Grand Masters have lightly touched upon a growing evil, which, if persisted in, is calculated to sow dissension. I allude to the

means resorted to by candidates for office in soliciting the support of their Brethren, and the arguments made use of by their supporters to gain them votes. Real worth and fitness for a station in the Grand Lodge never passes unnoticed among as intelligent a body of men as compose it, and modest merit is sure to reap its reward. The personal appeal of an aspirant for office, extolling his particular fitness for the station to which he aspires, indicates an over estimate of himself in his own mind and implies an obtuseness an the part of his Brethren not particularly complimentary to them. But a greater evil is the attempt to establish sectional lines, and to urge the claim of a candidate because he resides in a certain locality."

The financial condition of the Grand Lodge is satisfactory and sound.

THE REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE,

Was made by Brother Richard Vaux, chairman, and is, as usual with his yearly efforts in that direction, exceedingly interesting and noteworthy.

His review embraces the proceedings of 45 Grand Lodges, in which Alabama Report of 1877 has due and acceptable consideration.

Par parenthesis we ventured an allusion, in 1877, to the propriety of using the title of R. W. as applied to the GRAND MASTER; to which Brother Vaux responds as follows:

"Yes, we do say Right Worshipful, for our Grand Master; and right or wrong, we say another thing, that the Report of Brother Beers places him in the front rank of Masonic writers. We enjoyed reading his reflections 'in conclusion' of his report.

We extract a portion of Brother Vaux's salutatory to the Craft:

"Before specially noticing each of our sister Grand Lodges, we deem it eminently proper, as it is a most agreeable duty, to salute them in the bonds of fraternal unity and sincere Masonic esteem. The ties that bind us together are hallowed by our common faith in the wisdom and mercy of the Great Architect of Heaven and Earth; a devotion to virtue which elevates the souls of those who possess it, to a condition a little lower than the angels, and an obedience to the usages, customs and landmarks of our Fraternity, which permits neither evasion, equivocation, nor any mental reservation, to justify the least avoidance of inexorable mandates.

The ties that bind the Craft in all jurisdictions into a Fraternity are the outcome of the moral nature of man. They are not formal regulations; not legislative enactments. They were put into the heart of man by his Creator. They are as old as humanity. Whatever other human institutions may cultivate these moral elements, our Fraternity makes them the primary formation of Masonic character. It builds the Masonic character on virtue, and ornaments the creation it forms, with the highest degree attainable in its development for the practical duties of life. The man who is thus made a Freemason finds his imperative duty to be obedience to these principles, and the constant monitions to cultivate their growth, and secure their influences in this life. He is actuated in the

performance of these duties by the hope of gaining the revealed reward which is promised, and endorsed by faith, that his eternal life will be the more glorious and sublime. The Freemason is ever at work on the structure of his immortal state, by practicing that virtue, which contains in it among others those three attributes of which St. Paul spoke, "and now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity." It is well understood by the Craft that the charity elevated to so high a position among the Masonic virtues, is not the charity of almsgiving, but that of love, kindness, affection which makes a brother of a man, only after he has been made a Freemason.

The existence of these ties, their perpetuity, their unchanging and inviolable character, obedience to their inherent influences, have compacted the Craft into a solid moral Temple that for ages has defied the wasting power of time; for while time may wreck matter and wear out nations, it fails to touch with its destructive blade these moral virtues of the Craft. Therefore has Freemasonry come down to us out of the past unchanged; and therefore it is that we will hand it to those who come after us, bright as the sun, undimmed by spots or defects, fair as the moon, unclouded by innovations or uneclipsed by change.

It is in the unity of the Craft, that these ties grow and get the power to resist encroachments or assaults. It is in the unity of the Craft that new duties are unable to make new departures from the foundation on which its virtues rest, as they have ever rested, since the beginning. It is in this unity that strength comes to repel all clandestine efforts to enter the portals shut against novelties and innovations. and imperfect or counterfeit virtues.

Let us, then, strive with a zeal moderated only by wisdom to keep perfect, indissoluble, and make perpetual these great Masonic ties that unify the Craftsmen into a Brotherhood that adores God, loves the Brethren, abides in faith, cherishes hope, and fulfills the mandates of sublime Masonic charity."

GRAND OFFICERS:

M. W. Brother Michael Nisbet (late Deputy and acting)..Grand Master.
R. W. Brother John Thomson (re-elected).....Grand Secretary

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges.....374(?)

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

We have received a report from the M. W. Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island, giving the proceedings of its third annual communication, convened in the city of Charlottetown, February 20th, A. D. 1878, and containing also the proceedings of three quarterly communications of that Grand Lodge, held respectively at Tryon, Wednesday, the 16th of May, 1877, at Souris, Wednesday, the 15th of August, 1877, and at

Alberton, Wednesday, the 21st of November, 1877. M. W. Grand Master Yeo presided at the quarterly meetings, but was necessarily absent from the territory during the annual communication, on which occasion R. W. Jno. W. Morrison, Deputy G. M. officiated as G. M.

The annual address of G. Master Yeo was, however, read and is recorded in these minutes. He reports the craft in good condition, improving in knowledge of the *ritual* and increasing in numbers—two lodges having been added to their roll during the year.

GRAND OFFICERS:

M. W. Brother John Yeo (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother B. Wilson Higgs (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges.....11

QUEBEC.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Quebec convened its ninth annual communication in the city of MONTREAL, on Wednesday, the 25th day of September, A. D. 1878.

Present—M. W. Grand Master M. M. Tait, and the representatives of 55 constituent lodges.

The proceedings before us are of great interest, but were essentially reviewed in our report of 1878, although we then had only the Grand Master's annual address, a very able and comprehensive one, discussing, exhaustively, *the* topic of paramount interest in that jurisdiction, then and now, viz: the controversy with the Grand Lodge of Scotland. We do not care to repeat that review, and will content ourselves in this report with brief extracts from the Grand Master's address, giving some points, in the discussion alluded to, which we have not heretofore reproduced, as well as a few comments thereon.

The demand made by Quebec (after, apparently, accepting qualified recognition from her) upon the Grand Lodge of Scotland, was for instant and full acknowledgment of her supreme authority over all lodges within her jurisdiction, and is sufficiently explained in the following resolutions passed by Quebec in 1877, viz:

"*Resolved*, That in consideration of the recognition of this Grand Lodge, through the establishment of fraternal relations in the interchange of Grand Representatives, by the Grand Lodge of Scotland; and in view of the fact that there still exists in this jurisdiction, a subordinate Lodge working under Charter from that Grand Body, as well as three

subordinate Lodges working under Charters from the Grand Lodge of England; therefore, it is expedient, that a definite period be now fixed when those several lodges shall return to their respective Grand Lodges their Charters, and receive from this Grand Lodge a Duplicate thereof, so that the supremacy of the Grand Lodge of Quebec may be preserved intact in accordance with the well understood regulations defining the Territorial Jurisdiction of Grand Lodges on this continent.

"And, inasmuch as the interests of the craft in this Jurisdiction require that no unnecessary delay shall ensue in carrying out this resolution, the Most Worshipful the Grand Master is hereby instructed to cause the same to be communicated forthwith to the Grand Lodges of England and Scotland respectively, with a respectful notification that their several subordinate Lodges shall on or before the 1st of January next comply with the terms thereof."

Grand Master Tait opened a correspondence with the Grand Lodge of Scotland, designed to enforce the requirements of these resolutions, resulting in the refusal of that Grand Lodge to comply therewith, and her subsequent inexcusable retaliatory acts of chartering new Lodges within the Territory of Quebec. We give a portion of the response of the G. L. of Scotland to Grand Master Tait's demand, in which she alleges that—

The Grand Lodge in agreeing in February, 1877, to acknowledge Quebec as a Grand Lodge expressly reserved its jurisdiction over its Lodge the 'Elgin' at Montreal, in the event of that Lodge desiring to continue its connection with Scotland. This qualified resolution the body at Quebec has refused to accept; and it has imperatively demanded that the Grand Lodges of Scotland and England shall within a given period recall the Charters of their respective Lodges in the Colony, and that these Lodges shall thereupon apply for new Charters from it.

The Grand Lodge of Scotland when it passed the resolution in question, was not informed of the claim advanced by Quebec to absolute and exclusive jurisdiction within the Province of Lower Canada. In its application of January 6, 1877, for recognition, it simply 'sincerely desired recognition of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and to be in fraternal intercourse with it. Grand Lodge in disposing of the application was thus not aware of Quebec's pretentions, and that its demand was not only for recognition but also for renunciation by Grand Lodge of its hitherto undisputed jurisdiction over its own daughter Lodge at Montreal, and that too against the wish of that Lodge, which was in existence long before the formation even of the Grand Lodge of Canada itself.

Had the body at Quebec frankly stated its demands in its application, the present difficulty would not have occurred, for the Grand Lodge would have refused its recognition on such conditions. It had from the first been of opinion that a Grand Lodge at Quebec was unnecessary, and it was only induced to accord its qualified recognition on the representation that the Grand Lodges of Canada and England had given theirs. But it now appears that the latter Grand body had also qualified its recognition in terms similar to those of Scotland, and that the Quebec body, with characteristic modesty, had refused its acceptance.

In such circumstances the resolution to recognize Quebec to any ex-

tent has fallen, and that by its own act. It has thus no cause of just complaint, for Scotland is under no obligation to recognize it, and Scotland in declining to do so has exercised its undoubted right. The terms on which it offered recognition are those that have in every other similar case been exacted and readily agreed to. They are only insisted on in places where daughter lodges desire to retain their connection with their mother Grand Lodge, and when, through time, that desire dies out, Scotland readily renounces her jurisdiction in such localities.

The Committee desires to remind Grand Lodge that in recognizing the Grand Lodge of Canada similar conditions were agreed to by that Grand Body, and that the closest alliance and harmonious intercourse has throughout existed between the two Grand Lodges.

We are not told on what ground Quebec pretends to have a more extended title than that of the Grand Lodge of Canada. It seceded from that Grand Lodge, and by importunity succeeded in getting it to relinquish in its favor its jurisdiction over the Province of Lower Canada. But the relinquishment of that jurisdiction did not and could not convey the jurisdiction of other Grand bodies which it did not possess. The Grand Lodge of Canada conferred no right other than its own; and if the right to govern the English and the Scotch Lodges belonged to the Grand Lodges of those countries it still remains with them.

It was natural for Quebec to desire supreme control in her prescribed territory, and there is nothing in her demand at all inconsistent with our AMERICAN Grand Lodge usages and polity; but was she in circumstances at the time this controversy was inaugurated, demanding the assertion of those principles, as against the known rules and prejudices of those old organizations (of England and Scotland, owning allegiance to the same political government as herself) which had in the past, to a large extent at least originated and governed the Lodges now constituting the Masonic jurisdiction of QUEBEC?

If the American doctrine, of Supreme Grand Lodge control within a given territory, applies with equal force in the British Provinces, as in the States of the American Union, why has CANADA so long accepted the, in that case or supposition, unauthorized and aggressive interference by the Grand Lodge of England with Lodges within her jurisdiction?

Is Canada so neglectful of her rights and honor as to submit tamely to such usurpation, or is there not rather, in that country, some acknowledged principle of Masonic equity forbidding the forced severance of the ties which bind the old Lodges of the Dominion, to the mother Grand Lodges, some right of Lodge choice as to allegiance? At all events if Canada can afford to forego the assertion of her extreme rights could not Quebec also "bide her time," and patiently await the acceptance by her recusant Lodges of her preferable home government? We fear Quebec has weakened rather than strengthened her *power at home* by an impolitic

and premature conflict with her English and Scotch opponents. Rights are sometimes better conserved by PRUDENCE than by VALOR. While we cannot fully approve the course of Quebec, we need hardly say that the harsh retaliation of Scotland provokes our unqualified censure.

THE REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE,

By Brother W. Simpson Walker, is a noteworthy and very acceptable, as well as enjoyable feature of these proceedings.

He reviews with credit to himself and justice to the subjects of his criticisms the proceedings of 32 Grand Bodies.

We have to thank him for a very full and impartial review of the Alabama report of 1877, and hope to greet his pleasant brain and pen-work again when conditions are more favorable, as far as the writer's health is concerned, to their enjoyment.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Brother Melbourne M. Tait (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother John H. Isaacson (re-elected).....Grand Secretary

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges.....62

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of South Carolina—the 102d as claimed in this record—was held in the city of Charleston, commencing Tuesday, December the 10th, A. D. 1878.

Present, M. W. Grand Master B. W. Ball, and the representatives of 156 constituent Lodges.

The Grand Master's address is short, but sufficiently explicit and comprehensive.

He refers to the financial condition of the Grand Lodge as a subject of special interest. Urges prompt steps looking to the reduction of the debt by means of increased Lodge contributions, etc. Is satisfied that their obligations will be met in due time and fully discharged, and cautions the Lodges against debt as follows :

> It may be true that there is no urgency on the part of our creditors—no pressing demand ; yet, the indebtedness of the Grand Lodge is an example to the Subordinate Lodge ; and it has been seen that wherever the Subordinate Lodge becomes involved, the tendency of that Lodge is to disintegration and decay.

The caution, we think, is equally applicable to GRAND LODGES.

We quote from this address the appropriate remarks of the Grand Master, made under the head of

MASONIC CHARITY :

The mission of the Mason is to be derived from a close attention to the immemorial teachings of the Lodge Room. The Grand Lodge is not a Body organized to dispense charity ; neither is the Subordinate Lodge. It is the office of the latter to create the *Mason*, and the Mason has devolved upon him, his duties and the character of his mission, in the Lodge Room. The Mason himself assumes with that high title and name the office of dispensing to all mankind and more especially his Brother, Masonic charity in its largest sense,—the broadest humanity, and a liberal regard for the frailties of his fellow man. Without brotherly love, as the chief corner-stone upon which the structure of Masonry is erected, the fabric must fall to the ground and the Institution becomes a ruin. Tradition teaches and the archives of some of our oldest Lodges furnish evidence of the social features of the Lodge having at no distant day strongly characterized the gathering of those who have gone before us, and who met upon the highest hills and lowest vales. Brotherly love and affection can surely be stimulated and encouraged by a greater regard to the social duties within the Lodge, without danger from excessive conviviality. If Masonry is only to be a formal and technical tie—if it fails to make make man dearer and draw him closer unto his fellow and brother, it dwarfs into a mere sham and name. Since then, the Lodge makes the Mason, if he fails to go forth from its sacred precincts to practice the precepts he must there receive, the halls of the Lodge Room must necessarily become dead and lifeless walls ; if the social features and social virtues are therein cultivated and made brighter and to glow, the Lodge will have fulfilled its mission—and its creature, man, become that smooth and perfect ashlar his Creator intended him.

The work of the Grand Lodge, confined mostly to routine business, was accomplished in two days of diligent labor.

We referred in our last report to the South Carolina controversy, or rather the conflicting opinions of her learned Masonic authorities, in reference to the true date of the organization of the present Grand Lodge of South Carolina, (**1777** or **1783**) and gave some of the reasons adduced by then Grand Master DeSaussure in favor of 1777 as the date of organization in answer to those of P. G. Master Blake, suggesting 1783 as the year of its real establishment.

In view of this contrariety of opinion, P. G. M. DeSaussure, by request, prepared and delivered before the Grand Lodge a very able address—learned, exhaustive, and conclusive—on this subject which elicited and deserved the following complimentary acknowledgment from the Grand Lodge :

Resolved, That the grateful thanks of this M. W. Grand Lodge A. F. M. of South Carolina are most justly due and are hereby tendered to M. W. Past Grand Master Wilmot G. DeSaussure for his address delivered before the Grand Lodge last evening. The elaborate and painstaking research of Brother DeSaussure, there exhibited, call for our warmest admiration, and the address will form a most prominent and invaluable addition, not only to the history of Masonry in South Carolina, but to that of Freemasonry throughout the whole country, giving as it does facts and information never before compiled or collected together. We cannot in too strong terms express our acknowledgments and obligations to Brother DeSaussure for his masterly effort.

We can only give our readers (we would that they could all read and enjoy the whole address) his summary of positions illustrated and established by the arguments and facts adduced by him, viz:

As a conclusion of this sketch of the early history of Ancient Freemasonry in South Carolina, I desire to summarize it as follows:

The first Lodge constituted in South Carolina was Solomon's Lodge, No. 1, on 28th October, 1736.

A Provincial Grand Lodge was constituted some time between that date and 20th August, 1737.

Such Provincial Grand Lodge is traceable in the Gazettes until 1743, when, probably for the reasons assigned by Brother Mackey, it disappears until 1754. When it reappears in that year, it does so with some of the same officers as were found in it in 1743. It is then, with occasional hiati, traced until 1774.

In 1776 it is found, summoned by "order of the Grand Lodge," and desiring the attendance of all Brethren throughout *this State*.

In 1777 it installed Barnard Elliott as Grand Master of Masons in this State. In October, 1778, his funeral is attended by the Society of Freemasons, of which he was Grand Master.

A silence then occurs until December, 1781, when it is again summoned as the Provincial Grand Lodge (South Carolina then being overrun by the British troops), and John Deas is elected as Provincial Grand Master.

In 1783 the same body reappears as the Grand Lodge of the State, and John Deas is elected the Grand Master.

From 1783 to 1817 it continues to be found, although from 1787 to 1817 thereis also a rival Grand Lodge.

In 1817 there is an union of these rival Grand Lodges, on the same principles which governed in Massachusetts in 1792, and in England in 1813.

From 1817 to this date, it has continued with its united rival, as the Grand Lodge of Ancient Freemasons of South Carolina.

This appears to be such a connection and continuance with the Grand Lodge constituted in 1737, as to entitle it to claim 1737 as the date of the organization of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina.

It was the legitimate successor of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and became independent in December, 1776, according to the principles laid down by eminent Masonic authorities.

I therefore respectfully claim that the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free Masons of South Carolina, is in continuous succession, the second in rank of the Grand Lodges of the United States, the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts alone outranking it.

And I further claim that the Grand Lodge of South Carolina was the first independent Grand Lodge on the continent of North America.

THE REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE,

By Brother Charles Inglesby, Grand Secretary, is unexceptionable in method, matter, and expression. We always greet his reports with pleasure and read them with profit, and ever as we finish their perusal we wonder how he can say so much in such short reports. He must have a peculiar *knack* at it. In this report, covering only 75 pages, he has managed to present a very general review of most of the American Grand Lodges, as well as those of England, Scotland and Ireland, and finds space also for the discussion of topics of special moment in his jurisdiction, not neglecting others of general interest.

His review of Alabama—proceedings of 1877—is brief but acceptably courteous and considerate.

In his remarks on the attitude of the Grand Lodge of Scotland towards Quebec, we find opinions somewhat corroborative of our views on that controversy, tho' we had supposed, heretofore, that there was no doubt that Scotland in recognizing Quebec reserved control of Elgin Lodge, as alleged by the former.

We extract a portion of his comments on that topic, viz :

> If it be true, and we presume that it is, that when the Grand Lodges of England and Scotland accorded recognition to the Grand Lodge of Canada. it was with the distinct reservation that Canada should tolerate the existence in her jurisdiction, of such English and Scotch Lodges as chose to retain their original allegiance, and Canada accepted such qualified recognition,—then the Grand Lodge of Scotland may have some foundation for its action with reference to the Elgin Lodge. We say *may*, because we do not, by any means, feel satisfied of that fact. Scotland's position, that Quebec, the daughter of Canada, cannot demand more with reference to the Elgin Lodge, than Canada could have claimed before the Grand Lodge of Quebec was organized, has a show of reason to sustain it. But we are forced to the conclusions, and we say it with deference, that Scotland's action in chartering two new Lodges, appointing a Provincial Grand Master and creating in the territory of Quebec a Provincial Grand Lodge, composed of these two new Lodges and the Elgin Lodge, was an unlawful and indefensible invasion of jurisdiction and calculated to produce the most disastrous effects upon Masonic harmony and good government. We think that a very cursory examination of the foregoing report of the Grand Lodge of Scotland will demonstrate this fact. In the first place, the report says that Scotland, in recogniz-

ing Quebec. "expressly reserved its jurisdiction over its Lodge, the Elgin at Montreal." We have carefully perused the correspondence, which is contained in full in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and do not find *any reservation whatever* in the recognition accorded by Scotland in February, 1877; and inasmuch as Quebec, in 1876, expressly declined and has ever since declined to accept the qualified recognition tendered by England, it would have been very unaccountably inconsistent in Quebec to accept that from Scotland which it declined from England, the oldest Grand Lodge in the world. It thus appears that the very first paragraph of the report is an error, and that Scotland did unqualifiedly recognize and exchange Representatives with the Grand Lodge of Quebec—thereby proclaiming it a lawfully constituted, independent Grand Lodge. For reasons arising subsequently, Scotland cancels the commission of her Representative and withdraws her recognition. The argument of the above report is, that this action by Scotland caused the immediate dissolution and extinction of the Grand Lodge of Quebec—so complete, as to render her territory "open territory," and to justify Scotland in saying that Quebec is "not a lawful Masonic Power." in denying that Quebec is a genuine Grand Lodge; in saying that "Scotland does not know of any Masonic Power exercising at present jurisdiction in the Province of Quebec other than itself and the Grand Lodge of England," and in styling Quebec "a pretended Grand Lodge!"

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Augustine T. Smythe (elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Charles Inglesby (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... 182

TENNESSEE.

The sixty-fifth annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of TENNESSEE convened at NASHVILLE, on Monday, the 11th day of November, A. D. 1878.

Present—M. W. Grand Master Americus V. Warr, and the Representatives of 298 constituent Lodges.

The Grand Master's address is an able message, and especially eloquent and impressive in those passages devoted to the memory of their heroic dead, and the rehearsal of the terrible incidents of an epidemic which opened so many graves and caused such unexampled desolation and anguish in West Tennessee.

He names with suitable eulogy and sorrowful regret the loss of P. G. M. A. J. WHEELER, of CATRON, SLATER, WORSHAM, ANDERSON and KING, who died that others might live, closing the record of death with this

eloquent sentence : "War makes heroes, but this dread pestilence has made these brothers martyrs." A Lodge of Sorrow was also called by the Grand Master, which convened November 12th, and renewed with its imposing ceremonies and eloquent eulogies this masonic tribute of respect for these immortal names.

Grateful mention is made of the generous aid volunteered from abroad in the day of their calamity, of which he says :

The charitable hands of our Northern brethren were wide open, and pecuniary aid was showered in upon us until we were compelled to say, Hold, enough!

These generous contributions aggregated $24,183 70, and were of incalculable value in alleviating distress and saving life.

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence reported the following deliverance in reference to the Scotland-Quebec controversy, viz :

We have considered the Proclamation of the M. W. Grand Master of Quebec in regard to the invasion by the Grand Lodge of Scotland of the territory of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and the effort of the first-named Grand Lodge to establish two new Lodges within the territory of the Grand Lodge of Quebec. We recommend the adoption of the preamble and resolution offered, on yesterday, by Brother James D. Richardson, and referred to this committee, as follows :

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of Tennessee, holding, as it does, as a question of Masonic law and usage that the establishment of an independent Grand Lodge in a political territory, gives it exclusive right on that territory, and prevents the establishment, by any other Grand Lodge, of a Lodge within its borders, views with the deepest regret the recent invasion of the rights of the Grand Lodge of Quebec by the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

"That while acknowledging the claim of the Grand Lodge of Scotland that her non-recognition of the Grand Lodge of Quebec gave her authority, under the system of Masonic law obtaining in the mother countries, to establish a Lodge or Lodges in the Province of Quebec, yet the Grand Lodge of Tennessee holds that such action is entirely antagonistic to the recognized principles of American Masonic law.

"That this Grand Lodge, believing that her venerable sister of Scotland acted in this matter in good faith, and with no intention of disturbing the harmonious relations existing between her and the American Grand Lodges, affectionately and respectfully remonstrates with the Grand Lodge of Scotland, hoping that she may reconsider her action in the true interest of Masonic harmony, and prove that she adheres to her long-established practice of conserving the principles of Masonic right, justice, and jurisprudence."

NO REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

Which is accounted for by Brother John Frizzell, Grand Secretary, in the following satisfactory explanation :

When notified, early in the year, by the M. W. Grand Master, that he would look to me for the Report on Correspondence, I determined to undertake the task, feeling that his request should not be disregarded. In arranging the work of the year, this labor was assigned to September, which is, usually, one of my most leisure months. I intended to present a report giving such items of general interest as might be found in the Proceedings on file. I did not propose to attempt so elaborate a report as was prepared last year by the learned brother who was then the Chairman of the Committee, nor did I hope to be able to offer so interesting a document. It is, no doubt, fortunate for all concerned that circumstances beyond my control prevented my making the attempt.

The receiving and disbursing the fund for the relief of yellow fever sufferers in this State, commencing September 2, and continuing up to the meeting of the Grand Lodge, requiring as it did, for most of the time, from four to six hours each day, so interfered with previous arrangements as to preclude the idea of an attempt at preparing a report, even the short one which had been contemplated.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Brother George C. Connor.....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother John Frizzell (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges.....409

TEXAS.

We have been deprived of reports from the W. M. Grand Lodge of Texas since 1875. In that year we received the proceedings of the 39th annual communication and have received none since. Have our Brethren of Texas "cut us off?" Have we forfeited their good will so as to deserve to be denied the usual interchange of protocols? If not, please renew your reportorial favors as of yore.*

UTAH.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of this Jurisdiction convened its seventh annual communication at SALT LAKE CITY, Tuesday, November 12th, A. D. 1878.

Present—M. W. Grand Master John Shaw Scott, and the Representa-

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*NOTE BY THE GRAND SECRETARY:—The Grand Secretary has regularly received all the Proceedings of Texas, and that they did not come into the hands of the Committee on Correspondence was an oversight for which nobody is to blame but the Grand Secretary.

tives of six constituent Lodges. Also numerous P. G. Officers and Grand Representatives.

The Grand Master's address is very appropriate, and his recommendations are urged with forcible reasonings, although some of them run counter to the law and usage of this and many other older jurisdictions. We especially allude here to his opinions expressed in the following quotation:

In suggesting to you an amendment of Sec. 2, Art. XIII, of the Grand Lodge Constitution so as to permit the election of Master from the body of the Lodge, I am aware my opinions are somewhat at variance with the views of some of my esteemed Brethren, who tremble for the safety of what they consider the Ancient Landmarks; such worthy Brethren may perhaps be surprised to learn that the Old and Conservative Grand Lodge of Scotland not only permits it, but in the event of there being more than two candidates balloted for, decrees that a plurality shall elect, making it possible for a youth of eighteen, at which age they admit candidates, to be elected Master of a Lodge by a minority of its members and yet we do not hear of any unhappy results of such a law. To those who strennously insist upon the necessity of service as Warden before election as Master, I would say that a Lodge should be the best judge of the fitness of its members for positions of trust and responsibility, and experience may prove to them that Brethren whom they have advanced to the honorable station of Wardens are wholly wanting in the requirements necessary for a Master.

A Lodge may safely be trusted to follow the natural line of succession, all other things being equal, and to give the preference to a Warden in all cases where the best interests of the Lodge would not be jeopardized thereby. Again it often happens in shifting communities like ours, that there is no Warden to elect, and the Lodge is forced of necessity to re-elect some Past Master, who would much prefer to decline the honor in favor of some active, zealous and intelligent member in the body of the Lodge. I commend this proposed change to your careful consideration.

Our Brethren of Utah doubtless feel the restraint of the law requiring service as Warden as a necessary qualification for Master, and it may temporarily operate harshly in their jurisdiction; but the rule, if rigidly applied, by making better W. M.'s, really, as we believe, conserves the true interests of the *fraternity*, and in the end works for good. It is better to endure hardships for a season under laws approved by experience than by changing them to suit a temporary convenience, open up the way for confusion and misgovernment. It takes a short time in the life of a Lodge to prepare its governing material, but that life is easily jeopardized if the Master is unskilled or imprudent.

The Grand Master disapproved of a decision made by his predecessor, which was, that—

"A member has the right to object to the advancement of a Brother.

The member cannot be required to give his reason for objecting and the Master cannot compel him to prefer charges"—be, and the same is hereby expunged—

and says :

A careful investigation, I think, would have convinced Brother Orr that such is by no means a "well settled principle of Masonic Law." In my opinion an Entered Apprentice, or a F. C. is a Mason, at least so far as he has gone, and if objection is made to his progress should be entitled to be confronted with his accusers.

He cites respectable authority in support of his opinion, (Vermont and New York, for instance,) and was sustained by his own Grand Lodge in the adoption of the following resolution, reported by the Committee on Jurisprudence, viz :

We recommend the adoption of the following Standing Resolution :
Resolved, That it is the duty of a member of any Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, objecting to the Advancement of an Entered Apprentice or Fellow-Craft, to prefer charges against the Brother at the next regular meeting of the Lodge ; and if he fails to do so, the degree may be conferred.

We cannot now comment upon this decision further than to suggest that 50 years ago the "E. A." was a full member of the Lodge, and is still so considered in many Grand Lodges of Europe.

The Craft in UTAH, as these proceedings clearly indicate, are prospering, and gradually overcoming difficulties which few of our Brethren of America can fully appreciate, and which, for a time at least, seemed to us almost insurmountable. We congratulate them on their fortitude and perseverance, and wish them all success in their future contests with Priestcraft and its revolting iniquities. We consider Masonry the natural enemy of Mormonism, and if one succeeds the other cannot thrive ; may we not therefore conclude that the evident prosperity of the Masonic organization is prophetic of the decline of Mormon predominance in EUTAH !

THE REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE

Is by R. W. Brother Christopher Diehl, and is excellent in matter, indeed is full of intelligent and well-expressed opinions on the various topics presented to his consideration in the numerous (48 in all) reports reviewed by him. He is both a worker and a thinker when Masonic duties call him to *labor*. His views are *positive* and boldly expressed, but he is never neglectful of the courtesies and amenities due to all, either opponents or co-workers. He reviews pleasantly and briefly the Report of Alabama proceedings for 1877.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Brother Thomas Edward Clohecy.....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother Christopher Diehl (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... 6

VERMONT.

Repeating the regrets expressed in our last report, at the failure to receive in regular course the proceedings of 1877, we have now to acknowledge receipt of the report of 1878, containing the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Vermont, at its 86th annual communication, convened at BURLINGTON, on the 12th of June of that year.

Present—M. W. Grand Master Henry H. Smith, and "a constitutional quorum of Officers and Representatives of constituent Lodges."

The Grand Master's address has the "ring of the true metal," and though designedly brief, gives as clear an insight into the affairs of his jurisdiction as any reasonable enquirer could ask. Our appreciation of its quality is evidenced by the extent and number of the extracts hereinafter given.

He says a word of caution and instruction to Lodge Officers, urging the careful study of the laws and decisions of the jurisdiction, advising MASTERS to learn Masonic history and jurisprudence that they may teach the Craft and be themselves fitted for duty when questions arise requiring prompt and intelligent decision.

Had detected a Masonic "TRAMP" teaching forbidden lessons, and probably demanding wages not his due, and promptly *squelched* the intruder.

The results of his inspection of Lodges, after alluding to some irregularities of no serious detriment to the Craft, because promptly corrected is thus stated:

"I desired to know for my own satisfaction, even if without ultimate benefit to the fraternity, what, if any, disturbing elements we had to contend against generally, and wherein the work, lectures and understanding of the law differed in different sections of our jurisdiction, and to apply the remedy on all needful occasions promptly, so far as lay in my power. This, with the healing of all sorts of difficulties—harmonizing all descriptions of misunderstandings, blunders, carelessness, and the train of troubles that comes from the neglect to learn *how* to do a given thing before attempting its performance, has been just exactly the burden of my employment since the week after Grand Lodge in June, 1877. * * * * * * * *

I have recounted above what may be called unpleasant features (in some respects) of my visitations in conventions and Lodges; the pleasant features—the spirit of cordiality and welcome—the true Masonic spirit of friendship and brotherly love—the intense interest manifested to have everything right and as it should be—the willingness to correct all errors without a grumble—the evident desire to learn and profit thereby, all this would fill a volume and exhaust a language to tell. * * * I say this for all our Lodges and all our Masons. The limits of an address preclude a succinct and detailed history of each occasion separately, however gladly I might desire to do so.

I have met in Lodge and Convention something more in the aggregate than one-half the brotherhood of Vermont—that is, over four thousand Masons—and this has necessitated two thousand six hundred and thirty miles travel by rail, within this little State, and consumed thirty-seven days' time.

I was prepared to find a great diversity in Lodge work, and a want of uniformity not easily rectified, but I have been agreeably surprised to find that the trouble in this direction is very much less than I feared, and I assure you, brethren, we have ample ground for congratulation in this respect. Of course there is chance for improvement, as there will ever be, but with as faithful co-operation of officers and members in the future as in the last eight months, you may well feel proud of your position as a grand jurisdiction.

In his "conclusion" he speaks eloquently and favorably of the general outlook, as follows:

"I have received abundant wages day by day for whatever pains and labor I have bestowed, in what I have known in the year past of the true spirit of Masonry. I have learned many things emanating in one way or another from the high principles of the institution as exemplified in the conduct, bearing and character of men, that fills me with a hope I dared hardly breathe before. I am become convinced that the worthy—aye—the noble and philanthropic conceptions of the leading Masons of earlier days are yet controlling and governing the leaders of the craft everywhere, lending to civil government a potent, though quiet and unostentatious aid to true enlightenment and lasting peace.

I believe that Masonry is accomplishing the high mission of cementing men together in the bonds of fraternal love, which, in due time, will culminate in the great Jubilee of Peace on Earth.

"Like to one, who, in a vision
Sees what is to be, but is not,"

I can conjure up a vivid picture of the greatness and glory of this magnificent symbolism of ours, when it will have evolved from the mystery and darkness of its long and faithful quest the one surpassing, inestimable jewel of Divine Truth. I believe we hold the token of our great secret safely still.

I can almost realize the exultation that must fill every true Masonic heart when this consummation is attained; when brotherly love, relief and truth reign triumphant over the earth, and all the springs of human action are swayed by none but worthy motives.

We have waited and waited for this full fruition of our hopes; we have put our shoulders to the wheel manfully, as did our fathers, and like them turned away many times disappointed—perhaps discouraged; but every effort of theirs and ours has helped to elevate our cause and us into a purer moral atmosphere, and the warmer sunshine of God's approval.

So we take heart and work away with unabated ardor in the cause we love, growing stronger with every endeavor, and reaping our reward in earning it.

It is a bewitching dream to me, and comes back with a brighter and stronger glow whenever a Masonic emblem meets my eye, and I feel my heart warm and my pulse throb quicker under its mystic influence."

Several interesting ceremonial episodes are recorded in these minutes, which tended to vary the monotony of its routine duties and add zest to the labors of the communication. Among these we note, as of especial interest, "the presentation of a magnificent copy of the Holy Writings," to Rev. Brother Edwin Wheelock, Grand Chaplain, accompanied by earnest expressions of love, confidence and esteem; and, also, the presentation compliments to the retiring Grand Master Henry H. Smith, "a service of silver," being the material emblem significant of the sentiments thus happily expressed by Past Grand Master Park Davis. We give the whole address, as a specimen of aptness and beauty combined:

PAST GRAND MASTER DAVIS' ADDRESS.

Most Worshipful Brother:

This forenoon, before you retired from the office of Grand Master, you took occasion, in some very plain remarks, to give us your parting advice. Now that you are not in office and, in this respect, upon a level with the rest of us, in behalf of the Brethren I take the opportunity to *talk back* to you and, in plain terms, to tell how the Brethren feel toward you.

You will recollect you told us that, in the election of officers to govern either the Grand Lodge or subordinate bodies, it was our duty to select the best men for the places.

We had understood this duty before and, acting upon that principle four years ago, when you were in attendance upon the Grand Lodge for the first time as a member, your fitness was discovered, and by a flattering vote you were elected to the office of Grand Junior Warden. For two years, with much dignity and grace of character, you adorned the South--a fit Representative of the Pillar of Beauty. Then upon the same principle and in recognition of the same duty you were advanced by the brethren, and without stopping to knock at the West Gate, or pausing in the office of Deputy Grand Master, you were placed in the East, where, for two years, you presided, the honored Grand Master of the Masons of Vermont.

How brief and yet how brilliant has been your official career!

Where, in the history of the Grand Lodges of our country can be found another instance of a brother who, for the first four years of his member-

ship, has been thus honored? Well might you remark, as you did this forenoon, "It seems like a dream."

And, my Brother, while you have been thus honored by the spontaneous suffrages of your brethren, you in turn have honored them by the faithfulness and ability with which you have performed every duty. In official station you have made for yourself a Masonic character. It can truly be said, (and the expression conveys much,) you have become a *distinguished* Grand Master. The honor of this Masonic character is not yours alone; it is the property of this Grand Lodge.

Yet, in a more endearing way has your influence been felt. By your unassuming demeanor, by your faithful attention to all the wants of your brethren—by your earnest zeal to elevate their mind to a proper appreciation of the beauties of Masonry—by your uniform kindness and courtesy—and, above all, by the influence of your large Masonic heart, you have won and cemented the affections of your brethren till their hearts are full to overflowing with love for you—and this, my brother, is the way the brethren feel towards you.

With this feeling actuating us, I trust, we shall be pardoned for offering you a token of it, of a substantial nature. And, in casting about for an appropriate testimonial we considered the fact that you had just retired from the *labor* of office to the *refreshment* of unofficial life. Therefore, we have selected this silver service, which you can utilize for the purposes of bodily refreshment. Its shining vessels are not brighter than the esteem of your brethren, and in the coming years of your life—God grant that they be many—in your hours of refreshment, may you be cheered by the remembrance, that they come to you filled to the brim with the lasting affection of your brethren"

We hope the Grand Lodge of Vermont will allow no mere money considerations to interpose obstacles to the publication of "the historical matter," so interestingly alluded to by Brother Geo. F. Koon in his able report in behalf of "the Republication Committee." The publication of such a record as he suggests would be alike creditable to the Grand Lodge, and greatly prized by all intelligent readers of Masonic (or civil, for the two are correlated) history.

THE REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE

Was presented by R. W. Brother Henry Clark, Chairmanand Grand Secretary, and is in full keeping with his former deliverances in that department. His review does ample justice to the numerous Grand Lodge proceedings embraced therein, and is an admirable supplement to the minutes of the work of Vermont in 1878.

We have to thank Brother Clark for his full and very acceptable notice of the proceedings of Alabama for 1877.

We close our review of these welcome tidings from the GREEN MOUNTAIN State, with the following eloquently expressed thoughts contributed by Brother Clark in his concluding remarks, viz :

Nothing is greater in Masonry than that it contains the springs of faith,—not any peculiar form of faith, not orthodox or heterodox—but faith in the validity of virtue; faith in the dignity of mind; faith in the supremacy of law; faith in the essential worth of goodness; faith in the honor of labor and the abiding ties of brotherhood—a faith that takes hold upon the earth by the grasp of love and the heavens by an unconquerable hope. This is the faith that abounds in profound depths of Masonry; and let no man say he is a Mason who has not found it.

What Masons want, what the world wants, is not sympathy, not cooperation, not reform, not redemption, but strength. Power is what is lacking; not the power born of lust and gold and blood, but pure hearted power and clean handed strength. Given a healthy body, and a healthy mind, and the working moral harmonies will gather around the character as bees about the flowers of summer. * * * * * * *

We can point with pride to our numbers and resources, never so great in any time preceding. We seem to see the watch-fires of the Lodges burning up and down the slopes of the Atlantic and Pacific, their beams flashing along the valleys and hillsides of the old world and the new; while heart answers to heart in Masonic fellowship wherever civilization has extended.

In the United States there are between forty and fifty Grand Lodges, with nearly ten thousand subordinate organizations, the aggregate membership of which is about three-quarters of a million. The number of Masons belonging to the ninety-eight working Lodges of Vermont is nearly eight thousand.

And whom does this membership comprise? They are men gathered from the different pursuits and avocations, holding widely varying ideas and practices in many things, but yet bound together by the strong ties of Masonic Brotherhood.

Far be it from me to indulge in vain boastings, or to assert that every Mason is a true man in character and life, as he should be if faithful to the demands laid upon him at our altars. But this we may claim, that the membership of our Institution, taken as a whole, are not deficient in the performance of those duties which belong to high-minded and generous living, and that they exemplify in some degree the attributes that go to make up *genuine manhood*.

Another lesson we learn from this restropect, Masonry ministers to man's social nature. It recognizes and exalts the sympathies and sensibilities that lie at the very foundation of life. Brotherhood and fellowship are among the grand watchwords with which it goes forth to win men from selfishness, to break through the hard crust of selfishness, and kindle the electric fire of love that shall leap from heart to heart, and fuse all souls together in sweet accord. In unfolding the great idea of brotherhood and fellowship, Masonry passes its own lines, declaring with emphasis that "no man liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself," and that the sympathies and charities of the true Mason should be world-wide.

Masonry changes the impulse of benevolence into principle. It has created numberless channels, through which the streams of its imperial beneficence may flow to human hearts. It is uttering in one language, understood by every nation, kindred, people and tongue, the language of

human want and woe, the burden of its being and its mission in the world. Why is it in the world? Because—

"Never morning were to evening
But some heart did break,"

break through unrelieved penury, break through heartless neglect. Why is it in the world? Because the husband and the father has gone through the valley of the shadow of death, and left the loved ones behind him in the valley and shadow of the world's forgetfulness.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Lavant M. Read (elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Henry Clark (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges (98 working).....100

VIRGINIA.

The 100th annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of "Ancient York Masons," was "begun and held" in the city of Richmond, on Monday, the 9th day of December, A. D. 1878, and continued its sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday, being the 10th and 11th days of that month.

M. W. Grand Master B. R. Wellford Jr. opened the Grand Lodge in Ample Form.

The annual address of the M. W. Grand Master is able and in full accord with the events and associations of this Centennial Anniversary of the organization of the honored institution over which it was his privilege to preside. We quote his references to the Centennial year and the reasons for declining a formal celebration of the occasion, viz:

At the last communication of the Grand Lodge, the attention of the Grand Lodge was called to the interesting fact that this year marks the Centennial Anniversary of the Grand Lodge of Virginia. The propriety and manner of making any formal celebration of this interesting event was referred to a Committee, consisting of your Grand Master and Wardens. The subject received the proper consideration, but the Committee did not feel that under existing circumstances any such celebration could have been undertaken which would do justice to the occasion and be satisfactory to the Grand Lodge.

It would afford us all infinite pleasure to welcome to our midst, Brethren from other Jurisdictions who might feel impelled to mingle their congratulations with ours upon such an auspicious occasion; and in view of the past history of our good old Mother we have full right to make merry and be glad over our inheritance. We have indeed a glorious past, my Brethren, and woe betide that man, if any there be among

us, who would not cherish and perpetuate its memory. One hundred years ago, in the month of October, 1778, the Representatives of four Lodges assembled in the city of Williamsburg to inaugurate the Grand Lodge of Virginia. The spontaneous choice of the Craft for the office of Grand Master was none other than George Washington ; but the imperious necessities of the war required his continued absence in the field, and the desire of the Brethren could not be gratified. The choice then fell upon John Blair, one of the first appointed judges of the United States Supreme Court. During the remaining score of years of the century, he was succeeded in the Grand East by James Mercer, a judge of the Court of Appeals of Virginia ; Edmund Randolph, Governor of Virginia, and Attorney-General and Secretary of State of the United States during the administration of General Washington ; John Marshall, the world-renowned Chief Justice of the United States ; and Robert Brooke, Governor of Virginia.

These, my Brethren, were the Fathers of Virginia Masonry, and the Elder Brothers of all the children of the Grand Lodge of Virginia. Have we not a right to gather around her with filial pride and count the jewels which sparkle in her diadem?

But, my Brethren, an honored ancestry brings no credit and only reflects reproach upon an unfaithful posterity. Its inspirations ought to stimulate to noble emulation of the virtues of those who have preceded us. We may not put away from us its admonition ; we may not escape from the greater condemnation which awaits those who bring dishonor upon an honorable name.

He alludes eloquently and appropriately to the disastrous epidemic of 1878, giving some incidents thereof worthy of record, viz :

The history of this pestilence has yet to be written ; but fragmentary details have reached us which give occasion for pride and pleasure in knowing that, when faithfully written, the gloom of the narrative will be not inconsiderably relieved by the illumination of deeds of moral heroism and Christian charity, in its highest and noblest manifestation, which find few parallels in the normal history of human life. Amid the homes of the poor and the obscure in a plague-stricken city ; around the bedside of the dying and the dead ; amid the fetid atmosphere of crowded hospitals, breathing all the while the poisonous air of death in its most revolting form—men and women, clergy and laity, rich and poor, day in and night out—exhibited a calm courage and an unselfish consecration to duty which has never been excelled in the rush of any cavalry charge or the steady tramp of any armed phalanx in the face of belching artillery. Many, very many, of these heroes were our own brethren, illustrating in its sublimest beauty the tenets of our profession ; and though they may sleep in unknown—it cannot be forgotten, graves—for they have left an example to be imitated and a memory to be cherished.

Many a shining light in Masonry has been extinguished, and almost every Lodge in several of our sister jurisdictions has been a Lodge of Sorrow. But the sorrow has not been limited to them. It has extended elsewhere and invaded our own jurisdiction. My mother Lodge—the venerable old Lodge at whose altar George Washington first received

Masonic light—has been a participant in that sorrow, as she was in the like sorrow of Florida in the last year. When, in the summer of 1877, the stricken people of Fernandina stretched out their hands for aid, the Macedonian cry fell upon the ears of a Virginia physician—Francis Preston Wellford--a Past Master of Fredericksburg Lodge, No. 4, who had cast his lot with the adjoining community of Jacksonville. With an intelligent perception of the danger, he recognized it as the call of his covenant God, and responded to it only to terminate as noble a life as man ever lived, by the noblest of deaths. And so in this year another Past Master of the same Lodge—William Willis—found his post of duty in Memphis, at the head of the express office, through which the contributions upon which the people of the fated city relied were, to a large extent, received. He was urged to seek a refuge from the pestilence in some healthier atmosphere and to devolve his duties upon others. But no suggestion of personal ease or safety moved him. Upon the contrary, going outside of his daily official routine, he courted responsibility and danger when responsibility and danger appeared to be indicated as duty, and he fell at his post a martyred Mason.

The Grand Master announces with appropriate words of regret and eulogy, the deaths of P. G. Masters Jno. Robin Daniel and Thomas Flint Owens. To whose memory special honors were accorded by resolutions of the Grand Lodge.

From this address and the proceedings generally, we gather that the Brethren of Virginia are enjoying the blessings of peace, harmony and prosperity.

The minutes before us record the details of the very interesting and imposing ceremonies attending the unveiling of the beautiful monument recently erected in honor of their late R. W. Grand Secretary, the universally loved and venerated JOHN DOVE.

The ceremonial closed with an appropriate address by M. W. Grand Master Beverly R. Wellford Jr. which we in part reproduce, annexed:

ADDRESS.

"When the great Napoleon marshaled his army upon the plains of Egypt, in one of those brief addresses to which he occasionally resorted on occasion of peculiar peril, which marked the sagacity of the man as much as his brilliant victories did the genius of the general, he essayed to fire the hearts of his soldiers to deeds of heroic endurance and noble daring, by appealing to the inspirations of that remote antiquity which stood symbolized before them in the mighty Pyramids, beneath whose shadows they stood. * * * * *

When the great Apostle of the Gentiles visited the whilom seat of ancient civilization, science, literature and art, he found there an altar at which its proudest intelligence worshipped, dedicated to the Unknown God.

We are gathered together here, my Brethren, under the inspiration of an antiquity if not as remote, more venerable than that of the Pyramids,

and with a far more intelligent faith than that of the wisdom of Athens, around the very altar where our Fathers have these many years worshipped the known and living God. Nor do we come, my Brethren, with rebelling hearts to pile with unwilling hands stone upon stone, to mark the last resting-place of one whose memory we would willingly let rot. No, we come a stricken household to pay the spontaneous homage of the heart to one whom we loved and venerated in life, whose name and memory we mean to be known and unforgotten in death.

There is neither time nor occasion for words of extended eulogy. This very assembling and these simple ceremonies speak more eloquently than any words which human lips could utter. We profess to be the custodians of traditions, and mysteries and symbols, which enjoin upon us to teach and to practice the observance of a pure and elevated morality. And with these professions upon this consecrated ground, amid the ashes of our dead, we assemble to hail the completion of this modest Shaft, designed to perpetuate, so far as this solid granite can, the name of JOHN DOVE, and to commend to the affectionate custody of the Craftsmen who shall succeed us, the memory of his example, as a beautiful illustration in a life of more than four score years of the sublime tenets of Free Masonry.

'His spirit to God; his memory in our hearts; his body to the earth.'"

Dispensations for four new Lodges were granted.

THE REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE,

Is another able deliverance from the pen of Brother W. F. Drinkard for committee. He reviews with care and intelligent discrimination the proceedings of fifty-one Grand Lodges, including the Report and proceedings of Alabama for 1877.

He alludes approvingly to the "fact that the Grand Lodge of Alabama has a Committee on By-Laws; which committee examines and reports upon all the by-laws of all the Subordinate Lodges which have not previously been passed upon by the Grand Lodge. No by-law can go into operation (we infer) until it has received the approval of the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge. The committee recommended, and the Grand Lodge ordered, that some words should be stricken out and others substituted, or none put in their place, as seemed proper to the Grand Body. It may be added that the words 'Stated Meeting,' were ordered to be substituted by the words 'Regular Communication,'"

We have noted several of Brother Drinkard's comments on the doings or decisions of other jurisdictions as worthy of consideration, and calculated to elicit discussion—among these are the following. Under the head of Connecticut, he quotes and comments thus:

"We quote a decision, which we commend to the attention of all Masters of Lodges in Virginia, and to all who expect to become Masters:

IX. *Question.*—Can a Lodge be opened on the Entered Apprentice degree in the first instance?

Answer.—No. The proper course to follow is to open a Master Mason's Lodge, call it off, and then open upon the degree to be worked. The work completed, the Subordinate Lodge is closed—Lodge called on again in the Master Mason's Degree for the purpose of closing in due form.'

This is the right way under all circumstances. Never pass from the first to the second degree, nor from the second to the first. Always close the Entered Apprentice or the Fellow Craft Lodge, and resume labor in the Master Mason's Lodge. It is only in the Master Mason's Lodge that the order can be given for opening the other Lodges. It is absurd for an Entered Apprentice or Fellow-Craft Lodge to order a Fellow-Craft or Entered Apprentice Lodge to be opened."

It is our practice, at regular meetings, to open up from E. A. to M. M., not closing, but dispensing with labor, in the several degrees as we advance, then finally closing down through each degree from M. M. to E. A. inclusive. This work is instructive, desireably so, and not repugnant, as we conceive, to Masonic usage—Connecticut and Virginia to the contrary notwithstanding—are we right or wrong?

Maryland and Mississippi both commented objectingly to the Virginia practice of closing each day's session of the Grand Lodge. The following answer of Brother Drinkard to one objector, Maryland, shows very great confidence in Virginia methods, viz:

"The minutes of the proceedings present some peculiarities. The Grand Lodge was in session three days, and was each day *opened* and *closed*—instead of being '*called* from labor to refreshment,' or '*resuming* labor'—which we find to be the expressions most generally in use in other jurisdictions, and which indeed the Grand Lodge of Virginia is not unacquainted with, since it is recorded that 'the Grand Lodge was *called from labor to refreshment* for the space of thirty minutes; after which the Grand Lodge *resumed labor.*' We also find that each day the *full list* of all present is given.

Whatever is the custom in Virginia is apt to be right. It is a false pretense to claim the three days' sessions of a Grand Lodge as a single session or communication. To call from labor to refreshment is to call off for taking refreshment of some sort. The Grand Master calls the Virginia Grand Lodge together at his will and pleasure. He closes each day's session, therefore, with the order that is necessary to provide for a session the next day—stating even the hour."

A like answer was given to Mississippi's comments. Under OHIO he gives us his estimate of the report on correspondence from that jurisdiction for 1877. As we did not see that report we copy Brother Drinkard's impressions of it, expressing the hope, however, that its peculiarities are a *little exaggerated* in the following remarks:

"The report on foreign correspondence is from the pen of Brother John D. Caldwell, Grand Secretary. It is the most extraordinary document that we ever saw, considered as such report. In fact, it is not at all what it purports to be. It might much better be styled 'Scraps of Masonry and Masonic History.' We first set the author down as a lunatic, next as only a fanatic, then as a heathenish fanatic, and our final conclusion is that he is most likely a good man and a good Mason as well as a competent officer, but one of those wanderers from the true path who 'go about to set up a religion of their own.' Certainly his so-called report is very interesting, and rich in Masonic lore. We will give our readers seme little specimens of it.

Following straight after a poem is a long dissertation headed 'A Colored Grand Lodge in Ohio.' He is openly and avowedly for recognizing the colored Masons as regular. He actually compares the negroes to the Israelites. Next he gives all sorts of extracts from all sorts of documents."

But we must *close down* on Virginia, for want of room to continue these comments, not that we, though possibly "old Virginia" may, "tire."

We must add, however, that the Grand Lodge, at the suggestion of the Committee on Correspondence (special report), passed resolutions recognising the following Grand Bodies, viz:

The M. W. Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory.
" " " " " New Mexico.
" " " " " Dakota.
" " " " " Prince Edward Island.

Refusing, at the same time, to recognize the claims to recognition of the Grand Lodges of CUBA and NEW SOUTH WALES.

GRAND OFFICERS:

M. W. Bro. Beverly Randolph Wellford Jr. (re-elected)..Grand Master.
R. W. Brother William Bryan Isaacs, (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS:

Number of Chartered Lodges.....233(?)

WISCONSIN.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Wisconsin convened its 34th annual communication in the city of Milwaukee, on Tuesday, the 11th of June, A. D. 1878.

Present—M. W. Grand Master Jedd P. C. Cottrill, and the Representatives of 185 (of a total of 188) constituent Lodges.

Preceding the annual communication, the Grand Lodge held two special meetings, the proceedings of which are also given in the report now under consideration.

These specials were convened for the purpose of dedicating the following Masonic Halls, recently built by the Brethren of the Lodges named below, viz:

At Evansville, Wisconsin—Hall of Union Lodge No. 32—November 14th, 1877.

At Waupaca, Wisconsin—Hall of Waupaca Lodge No. 123—December 21st, 1877.

The dedication ceremonial at Evansville (as we doubt not was also the case at Waupaca, tho' not reported in full) was largely attended by Craftsmen and citizens generally. Grand Master Cottrill conducted the ceremonies at Evansville and delivered an address, which we may emphatically say was eminently appropriate and instructive. We extract a portion of this address in which, as an incident to his exposition of the characteristics of Masonry, he introduces some interesting historical facts, as follows:

In America, Free Masonry was introduced early in the eighteenth century. The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts is now more than one hundred years old; the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has an equal age, and Masonry there has a recorded history since the year A. D. 1730. I was myself at one time a member of a Lodge in the State of New York, called Independent Royal Lodge, which originally, after the English manner, conferred the Royal Arch degree, which received its charter in the year A. D. 1760, and which exists now as Lodge Number 2, upon the roll of the Lodges of New York.

In Wisconsin, the first Lodge was organized at Green Bay, in the year A. D. 1824, under a dispensation from the Grand Lodge of New York. It was composed principally of officers of the United States Army stationed there. In that Lodge, Bro. Henry S Baird, afterwards Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, received the degrees of Masonry, and became its Master. It was the first Masonic Lodge organized west of Detroit. Its existence terminated about 1830, and Washington Lodge, No. 2., now occupies its place, of which Bro. Baird was also, for several years, Master. In the year A. D. 1840, what is now Mineral Point Lodge, No. 1, at Mineral Point, Melody Lodge No. 2, at Platteville, and Kilbourn Lodge, No. 3, at Milwaukee, were organized. These three Lodges, in 1843, formed the present Grand Lodge of Wisconsin. The number of Lodges then was three, and their membership was about sixty. The Lodges number now one hundred and eighty-six, and their membership, according to the last returns, was 10,688. One hundred and eighty-six of the villages and cities of this State are made glad in having a Masonic Lodge within them. Ten thousand and upwards of men have adopted Masonic principles for their guidance. Were there nothing of Free Masonry except that which exists in Wisconsin, it would appear

that there is enough in its history and progress here to vindicate its utility, and permanent, lasting value. But, in addition, every State and organized Territory of the Union has its Lodges and Grand Lodge, and American Masons number in all more than 700,000. All the Provinces of Canada have their Grand Lodges, and so of Ireland, Scotland and England; the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of which latter country is the Prince of Wales, the heir apparent of the British Crown, and who is to be the next King of England, should he survive his mother, Victoria, the present reigning sovereign. Masonry also prevails in nearly all the continental parts of Europe, in Asia and Africa, in the islands of the seas, and in nearly all the States and Provinces that comprise South America. And in all these countries and places, and in every Masonic Lodge within them, each member of this Lodge stands to-day, and has always stood, and will continue while life lasts to stand, upon an absolute level with each and every of his Brethren there. Though he cannot speak his tongue, or converse with him in his vernacular, yet he can, by indubitable, never-failing means, signify to him his Masonic brotherhood, and without fear of denial or refusal, may demand and receive all his Masonic rights and privileges.

The Grand Master's annual address is a very suitable and comprehensive executive message.

He congratulates the Grand Lodge upon "this large assemblage," (it is rarely the case that *only three Lodges* fail to answer to roll call, as we note was the fact at this communication,) and gratefully remarks:

Again, I give you the glad tidings that death has not removed from us, during the past year, any present or past Grand Officer. In all their value to us, from past official rank, from ability displayed in official station, and from the fraternal affection in which they are esteemed, they all remain to us to-day.

He suggests several, apparently, needed changes in the organic law of the jurisdiction which, however, were not approved by the Committee on Jurisprudence, they preferring to await a general review and codification of the laws.

He announces—

Our relations with other sister Grand Lodges remain wholly fraternal and undisturbed, and we are in regular and kindly correspondence with all—

And recommends the "formal recognition" of the Grand Lodges of MANITOBA, DAKOTA and PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, in which the Grand Lodge concurred by the adoption of appropriate resolutions, adopting also a resolution "recognizing and extending fraternal greetings to the Grand Lodge of the INDIAN TERRITORY."

"The papers and correspondence respecting the Grand Lodges of

CUBA, NEW MEXICO and NEW SOUTH WALES," were "placed on file, and recognition for the present withheld."

The Grand Master wants, and thus recommends the building of—

A MASONIC TEMPLE.

I urge upon the Grand Lodge the matter of the construction by it of a temple in Wisconsin, suitable for its accommodation and that of the Brethren, and honorable to the Craft. Several of the Grand Jurisdictions, smaller than Wisconsin in number of Lodges and in number of Brethren, have erected temples for their accommodation, and I think that Wisconsin, with its one hundred and eighty-eight subordinates and its membership of near eleven thousand, may now well imitate and push to completion the enterprise.

The substantial question in connection with it is to provide the means. This I think may be done without the imposition of any heavy burden upon the Craft. The magnificent temples of New York, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, and perhaps others, have been mainly erected through an assessment upon the Brethren. In New York the assessment is fifty cents *per capita* annually upon a membership of 81,000. This I believe can be done here, with the assessment made so light and payable upon so long intervals of time that it will hardly be felt to be an assessment at all. Upon much careful consideration of the subject, I am of the opinion that the sum of fifteen thousand dollars, at least, for this purpose can be raised among the subordinates and Brethren by voluntary subscription. A considerable amount has already been voluntarily tendered, without any effort to procure it or any asking for it. The sum of abont eleven thousand dollars lies in our grand treasury, which to all practical intents and purposes is so much simple dead money that might well and profitably be applied to such a purpose. The Grand Chapter could also well afford to donate at least three thousand dollars to the enterprise. An assessment of five dollars *per capita* upon the Brethren would add sufficient means to fully accomplish the object.

Be not too sure of success in realizing such apparently reasonable calculations. Every Grand Lodge which has yet embarked in the enterprise of building a TEMPLE has proceeded and depended upon just such estimates of probable resources, only to find themselves, in the end, disappointed and involved, many of them disastrously so, in debt and vexatious controversies. The history of Grand Masonic Temples in America is a record of trials and difficulties which ought to be an effectual warning against similar improvident enterprises. If you determine to build the Temple don't lay the "CORNER STONE" even until the whole cost of the structure has been paid into the Treasury.

The work of the Grand Lodge, which was by no means *light*, was well done in the two days devoted to those labors. Among their proceedings we note that action on the MASONIC TEMPLE scheme was deferred. Also,

the adoption of the following resolution, suggested by the Committee on Jurisprudence, viz :

Resolved, That in view of the fact that the Grand Orient of France has eliminated from its Constitution, as Masonic principles, belief in GOD and the immortality of the soul, and has substituted therefor simply the loose, vague and indefinite phrase, "freedom of conscience," that all Masonic recognition of said Grand Orient, and of any Lodge or person claiming to be a Mason under its jurisdiction or owing fealty to said Grand Orient under its amended Constitution is hereafter withheld.

THE REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE

Was made by R. W. Brother John W. Woodhull, Grand Secretary, for Committee, who was called in late, but yet earned his day's wages. He says :

It was only a few weeks previous to the session of the Grand Lodge that R. W. Brother Emmons E. Chapin informed us, that on account of pressing official duties, he would be unable to prepare the report on correspondence, and requested us to perform that labor.

We have attempted to write the report with our hands already overloaded with labors of a similar nature, and should we fail in presenting such a report as will meet the approval of our Brethren, we shall still have the satisfactory assurance of having done the best we could under the circumstances.

Brother Woodhull does not apologize for his work, nor need he have done so.

For it is a well-considered and creditable review of the proceedings of 32 Grand Lodges, in which the report of Alabama for 1877 receives due consideration.

The bouquet presentation attracts his special attention, and he becomes enamored of Brother Sayre (or the wife or the flowers?) so much so as to invite immigration. Hear him :

We always supposed Brother Sayre was a married man, and now we know it. We now know, too, why he writes such splendid reports. Read the following :

"BOUQUET PRESENTED.

"Mrs. Daniel Sayre presented a bouquet to the Grand Lodge through Brother Joseph Winthrop Moses, and it was accepted by the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, Brother Henry Clay Armstrong, on behalf of the Grand Lodge."

The wife of a Grand Secretary who is so kind and thoughtful as to present a bouquet to a Grand Lodge, of which her husband is a member, is too good to live in Alabama ; she should come to Wisconsin.

He, as do many others, objects to G. MASTER WILSON'S decision No. 5,

of 1875, quoting the committee's report on it, which we reproduce with his comments. viz:

The Committee on Jurisprudence, reviewing the decisions of 1875, say of Grand Master Wilson's decision No. 5: "In this decision the principle is announced, 'That a woman who has been divorced from her husband is not a competent witness against him in a Masonic tribunal as to matters or things which transpired during coverture," the committee recommend an exception in cases of *injuries to her person.*"

We think the exception is well taken, but would add one more, viz: to the whole decision We believe the object of a Masonic trial to be to arrive at the facts, and that any evidence which bears directly upon the case should be admitted. It might occur, as in one instance which transpired in this State, that the evidence of a divorced wife would be the only evidence through which the husband could be convicted of a loathsome crime.

GRAND OFFICERS:

M. W. Brother Charles F. G. Collins .. ..Grand Master.
R. W. Brother John W. Woodhull (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges.....188

WYOMING TERRITORY.

The neat and in all respects acceptable pamphlet before us, records the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Wyoming, at its FOURTH annual communication, held at RAWLINGS, on Tuesday the 8th day of October, A. D. 1878.

Present, M. W. Grand Master Orlando North, with numerous Grand and Past Grand Officers, and the Representatives of five constituent Lodges.

The Grand Master's address is appropriate and suggestive. He expresses sympathy for the sufferers by the epidemic of 1878, and regrets the inability of the craft in his jurisdiction to contribute to the relief fund as liberally as their charitable impulses prompted.

On the 24th of June, he assembled the Grand Lodge at LARAMIE CITY to lay the corner-stone "for a school-house building to be erected in that place," which ceremonial labor was *amply* performed.

We quote a portion of his closing remarks, as follows:

"Our foreign relations remain unchanged, so far as any official notice that I have received.

Our domestic relations seem to be all that could be desired, harmony

and good feeling prevailing throughout the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

I have nothing further to call your attention to but my own views for the good of Masonry, which I offer with the most fraternal feeling.

I very much regret my inability to visit the subordinate Lodges, but my business relations have been such that it has been impossible for me to do so; and the same spirit seems to prevail throughout the whole craft with a few exceptions; it certainly does with Lodges that have come under my personal observation. It seems that we all lay too much stress upon that portion of the charge to the Entered Apprentice, that our usual avocation must not be neglected. We all admire the teachings of our time-honored institution, and believe to be a good Mason is to be all that constitutes a just and upright man. We can not have good Masons without good work being done in subordinate Lodges. This requires time, study, and labor. Does not our noble cause justify the expenditure of more of our precious time?

To the Masters:—Let me urge upon you the necessity of being proficient in the work and duties of your office.

* * * * * * * *

An interesting incident is presented in the minutes recording the letter of Brother Asa L. Brown, Past Grand Master of Washington Territory, dated at Platteville, Wisconsin, tendering to the Grand Lodge of Wyoming the three great lights used by himself and twenty associates at an impromptu meeting held at INDEPENDENCE ROCK 4th July, 1862, antedating the formation of the Grand Lodge, "and, indeed, the practical settlement of the Territory," of Wyoming, several years—(under what authority the Lodge described was opened is not stated, but we presume it was *independent* of authority or charter). We give an extract from the letter of Brother Brown recounting this "wild wood" episode. He says they—

"Wended their way to the summit of the Rock, and soon discovered a recess, or rather depression, in the Rock, the 'form and situation' of which seemed prepared by Nature for our especial use.

An altar of twelve stones was improvised, to which a more thoughtful or patriotic Brother added the thirteenth, as emblematical of the original Colonies, and being elected to the East by acclamation, I was duly installed (i. e. led to) the oriental granitic seat. The several stations and places were filled, and the Tiler, a venerable brother, with flowing hair and beard of almost snowy whiteness, took his place 'without the Western Gate,' on a little pinnacle which gave him a perfect command of view over the entire summit of the Rock, so that he could easily guard us against the approach of all, either ascending or descending. I then informally opened 'Independence Lodge No. 1,' on the degrees of E. A., F. C., and M. M., when several of the Brethren made short appropriate addresses, and our venerable Tiler gave us reminiscences from his Masonic history, or of it, extending from 1821 to 1862. Having gone up provided with fluid extract of rye, 'sweet water,' sugar, and citric acid, the Craft

was called from labor to refreshment, a bucket-full of which was prepared, and Masonic and impromptu toasts and responses were indulged in, (not forgetting, however, the first point of entrance,) until, no further business appearing, the Craft resumed labor, and the Lodge was duly closed.

It was a meeting which is no doubt remembered by all the participants who are yet living, and some of those who thus became acquainted have kept up fraternal intercourse and correspondence to the present time. Several years afterwards, in my sojournings in Washington, Idaho and Montana, I from time to time met some of the informal members of Independence Lodge, who invariably remembered and recognized me in a thoroughly fraternal manner.

Now to the objective point of this letter: I carried "the plains across" the "great light," but the lesser lights (of the great lights) had to be created; and as there is no law defining their composition or the necessity that they should be of "some metallic substance," I improvised them for the occasion from a paper-box cover. When closing the Lodge, I remarked to the brethren that I should preserve the Great Lights until I could have them laid up in the archives of the Grand Lodge having jurisdiction over Independence Rock, as a memento of the day and the occasion."

The proceeding generally, especially the reports of its Grand Officers and Committees, give us renewed assurance of the prosperity of WYOMING and of her skill in the work of the Lodge.

THE REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE

Is by R. W. Brother William G. Tonn, Chairman, and is his second very creditable effort in that department.

His review embraces the proceedings of 50 Grand Lodges; among which, those of Alabama for 1877, have due and appropriate consideration.

He thus comments on one of Alabama's decisions; but as the decision only upholds the *law* governing the matter in dispute, we beg to remind the Brother that it is the law, and not the decision, which should be called in question, viz:

"Committee on Jurisprudence decided that—

'A brother, who has been tried and suspended for a definite period, and who has taken an appeal to the Grand Lodge, which appeal has been sustained before the termination of the period of suspension, *to be that of an unaffiliated Mason.*'

We don't see how we can agree to that decision. An amendment to the rule, however, under which the decision was rendered, was offered; yet we fail to see that even that can cure the defect. Why don't our Brethren of Alabama go back to fundamental principles, and start entirely new?"

In commenting, under the head of New Hampshire, on the rights of INITIATES, he expresses views quite likely to provoke discussion, and we

reproduce them with a view to future reference. We quote the New Hampshire decision and Brother Tonn's comments:

"1. That a ballot for advancement is not upon proficiency merely, but upon general fitness for Masonic membership, and carries with it all the consequences which follow the original ballot.'

We can not agree with this decision, for this reason, that if the committee on character has performed its duty and made a report which was accepted by the Lodge, and subsequently acted upon by ballot, and the candidate declared duly elected, this ends all inquiry as to his fitness of character for the degrees of Masonry, and the subsequent ballots are, in our opinion, merely taken upon his proficiency; should an E. A. or F. C. while standing as such, be accused of or be guilty of an act which, in the opinion of any honest thinking brother, ought to debar him from advancement, charges should be preferred, a trial had, and the judgment of the Lodge obtained in proper manner; this occurs to us as a more equitable rule in cases of such nature, because what benefit has an E. A. received for his money by having conferred upon him that degree only? he trying, perhaps, for a life time to gain admission to the others, and being prevented by one, perchance, not half as good a man and mason as the applicant is and would be; let the first entrance into Masonry be properly guarded, and none admitted except such as are 'worthy and well qualified,' and this entire question will take care of itself."

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. James H. Hayford (elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. William G. Tonn (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Number of Chartered Lodges..... 5

IN CONCLUSION

The writer begs permission to plead in extenuation of some of the many defects of this report, that it was prepared while suffering from physical ills and invalid surroundings greatly prejudicial to his successful or satisfactory accomplishment of the task.

Under the most favorable conditions possible, however, he could not be fully satisfied ; for he never approaches the important and responsible duties of the reviewer without serious misgivings as to his fitness for the work.

He never attempts, as it were, to launch his frail intellectual SHALLOP upon the wide ocean of Masonic lore, legend, and inquiry, thus incidentally opened up to his view, inviting exploration and discovery, without serious foreboding of failure or wreck, from contact with obstacles,

or possibly, a "lee shore" not cautioned against in our imperfect "sailing directions" and "chart." When attempting to solve the great, and oft-recurring, Masonic problems necessarily suggested by the work he is constantly reminded, and humiliatingly so, of the fact so forcibly uttered by LA PLACE, referring to the great laws of the siderial heavens, when he exclaimed "that which we know is little, that which we *know not* is immense!" and realizes, too, the full force and truth of that aphorism of Newton's, when, contemplating the illimitable grandeur, extent, and perfection of nature's works and ways, in which he was constrained to declare, "I am but a little child standing upon the shore of that vast undiscovered ocean and playing with a little pebble that the waters have washed to my feet."

So in a degree at least, do we feel abashed in attempting to elucidate the history or expound the principles of Masonry. An institution so ancient as to antedate history, and even tradition, so beautiful and grand in its adaptation to the wants and capabilities of man, universal; and apparently so intimately blendid with, and correlated to, the inscrutable decrees of the GREAT ARCHITECT OF THE UNIVERSE, governing man's origin, progress, and destiny, as to require the effulgent light and *highest degrees* of the "CELESTIAL Lodge above" to develope the full significance and beauty of those grand designs of the MASTER which are only faintly traced upon our shadowy, earthly Trestleboards.

The will of God is in it, and will in due time be accomplished by and through MASONRY. Let us then accept the partial inspiration now vouchsafed to us, and continue "to lead the blind by a way they know not and make crooked paths straight before them," praying for, and awaiting in full hope, the advent of *more light*, the coming dawn of the new and better day!

We append a list, arranged in alphabetical order, of the reports and proceedings herein reviewed, (44 in all) viz:

Arkansas	1878	Missouri	1878
California	1878	Mississippi	1879
Canada	1878	Nebraska	1878
Colorado	1878	Nevada	1878
Connecticut	1879	New Brunswick	1878
Dakota	1878	New Hampshire	1878
Delaware	1878	New Mexico	1879
District of Columbia	1878	New York	1879
Georgia	1878	North Carolina	1878
Idaho	1878	Nova Scotia	1878
Indiana	1878	Ohio	1878
Indian Territory	1878	Oregon	1878
Illinois	1878	Pennsylvania	1878

Kansas	1878	Prince Edward Island	1878
Kentucky	1878	Quebec	1878
Louisiana	1879	South Carolina	1878
Maine	1879	Tennessee	1878
Manitoba	1879	Utah	1878
Maryland	1878	Vermont	1878
Massachusetts	1878	Virginia	1878
Michigan	1878	Wisconsin	1878
Minnesota	1879	Wyoming	1878

We have also received numerous interesting reports and circulars from Foreign Grand Bodies, which favors are gladly welcomed and kindly appreciated, though we have been forced by unavoidable impediments to postpone a more *ample* recognition and acknowledgment of them than is here given.

The Protocals alluded to are as follows, viz :

Quarterly reports of the M. W. United Grand Lodge of England dated severally 4th December, 1878, 4th June and 5th March, 1879.

Proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Scotland at quarterly communications held respectively May 1st and August 7th, 1879.

Valuable circulars and bulletins from the GRAND ORIENTS of Hungary, Spain, Egypt, and Brazil, together with numerous circular and pamphlet expositions of the Cuba-Colon controversy, issued by both of the contestants in the unfortunate jurisdictional conflict into which our Brethren of Antiles have been so long engaged, and of which we have already published as many details as our space will permit or our readers, possibly, excuse.

OLIVER S. BEERS,
For the Committee.

GRAND SECRETARIES AND THEIR ADDRESS.

0.	Alabama	Daniel Sayre	Montgomery.
1.	Arkansas	Luke E. Barber	Little Rock.
2.	California	Alexander Gurdon Abell	San Francisco.
3.	Colorado	Edward C. Parmelee	Georgetown.
4.	Connecticut	Joseph K. Wheeler	Hartford.
5.	Delaware	William S. Hayes	Wilmington.
6.	District of Columbia	William Reynolds Singleton	Washington.
7.	Florida	DeWitt Clinton Dawkins	Jackson.
8.	Georgia	James Emmett Blackshear	Macon.
9.	Illinois	John F. Burrill	Springfield.
10.	Indiana	William H. Smythe	Indianapolis.
11.	Iowa	Theodore Sutton Parvin	Iowa City.
12.	Kansas	John Henry Brown	Wyandotte.
13.	Kentucky	Hiram Bassett	Louisville.
14.	Louisiana	James C. Batchelor	New Orleans.
15.	Maine	Ira Berry	Portland.
16.	Maryland	Jacob H. Medairy	Baltimore.
17.	Massachusetts	Tracy P. Cheever	Boston.
18.	Michigan	Ellery I. Garfield	Detroit.
19.	Minnesota	Azariah T. C. Pierson	Saint Paul.
20.	Mississippi	John Logan Power	Jackson.
21.	Missouri	John D. Vincil	Saint Louis.
22.	Nebraska	William R. Bowen	Omaha.
23.	Nevada	John D. Hammond	Carson.
24.	New Hampshire	George Perley Cleaves	Concord.
25.	New Jersey	Joseph Howell Hough	Trenton.
26.	New York	James McMurray Austin	New York.
27.	North Carolina	Donald W. Bain	Raleigh.
28.	Ohio	John Day Caldwell	Cincinnati.
29.	Oregon	Irving W. Pratt	Portland.
30.	Pennsylvania	John Thomson	Philadelphia.
31.	Rhode Island	Edwin Baker	Providence.
32.	South Carolina	Charles Inglesby	Charleston.

33.	Tennessee	John Frizzell	Nashville.
34.	Texas	George H. Bringhurst	Houston.
35.	Vermont	Henry Clark	Rutland.
36.	Virginia	William Bryan Isaacs	Richmond.
37.	West Virginia	Odell S. Long	Wheeling.
38.	Wisconsin	John Wesley Woodhull	Milwaukee.
39.	Dakota	Charles T. McCoy	Bon Homme.
40.	Idaho	Lewis F. Cartee	Boise City.
41.	Montana	Cornelius Hedges	Helena.
42.	New Mexico	David J. Miller	Santa Fe.
43.	Utah	Christopher Diehl	Salt Lake City.
44.	Washington	Thomas Milburne Reed	Olympia.
45.	Wyoming	William G. Tonn	Evanston.
46.	Indian Territory	William A. McBride	Atoka.
47.	Canada	John J. Mason	Hamilton, Ont.
48.	New Brunswick	William F. Bunting	Saint John.
49.	Nova Scotia	Benjamin Curren, D. C. L.	Halifax.
50.	Quebec	John Helder Isaacson	Montreal.
51.	British Columbia	Edward Crow Baker	Victoria.
52.	Manitoba	Edward G. Conklin	Winnepeg.
53.	Prince Edward Island	George W. Wakeford	Charlottet wn.
54.	England	Shadwell H. Clerke	London.
55.	Ireland	Samuel B. Oldham, Dep	Dublin.
56.	Scotland	David Murray Lyon	Edinborough.
57.	Brazil	Alexander F. DeAmaral	Rio Janerio.
58.	Chili	Jose Maldonado	Valparaiso.
59.	Peru	Charles Prince	Lima.
60.	Spain	Pedro Pablo Castanera, 33o	Salud 6, Madrid.
61.	Hongrie	Henri Iby 33	Budapest, Waitner Boulevard No. 45.
62.	New South Wales	Nicholas Weeks	Sidney, Aust'al'a
63.	Groessen Loge von Preussen	Bouche	Berlin.
64.	Scheveden	Carl Ludwig Henning Thulstrup	Stockholm.
65.	Cuba	George J. Barnett, M. D	Havana, Campanario, 38.
66.	Spain	Francisco Conde	Madrid.

GRAND OFFICERS AND THEIR ADDRESS.

FOR 1879-80.

HENRY CLAY TOMPKINS	Montgomery	Grand Master.
RUFUS W. COBB	Montgomery	Deputy Grand Master.
JOHN H. BANKHEAD	Moscow	Senior Grand Warden.
JOHN GIDEON HARRIS	Livingston	Junior Grand Warden.
WILLIAM H. DINGLEY	Montgomery	Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE	Montgomery	Grand Secretary.
REV. WILLIAM C. BLEDSOE	LaFayette	Grand Chaplain.
DEWITT CLINTON WHITE	Moulton	Grand Marshal.
ISAAC A. HALL	Buyckville	Senior Grand Deacon.
		Junior Grand Deacon.
ADAM REIGART BAKER	Montgomery	Grand Steward.
JOHN WILLIAM MARTIN	Montgomery	Grand Steward.
JAMES DAVIDSON	Montgomery	Grand Tiler.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

OLIVER S. BEERS ..... MOBILE.

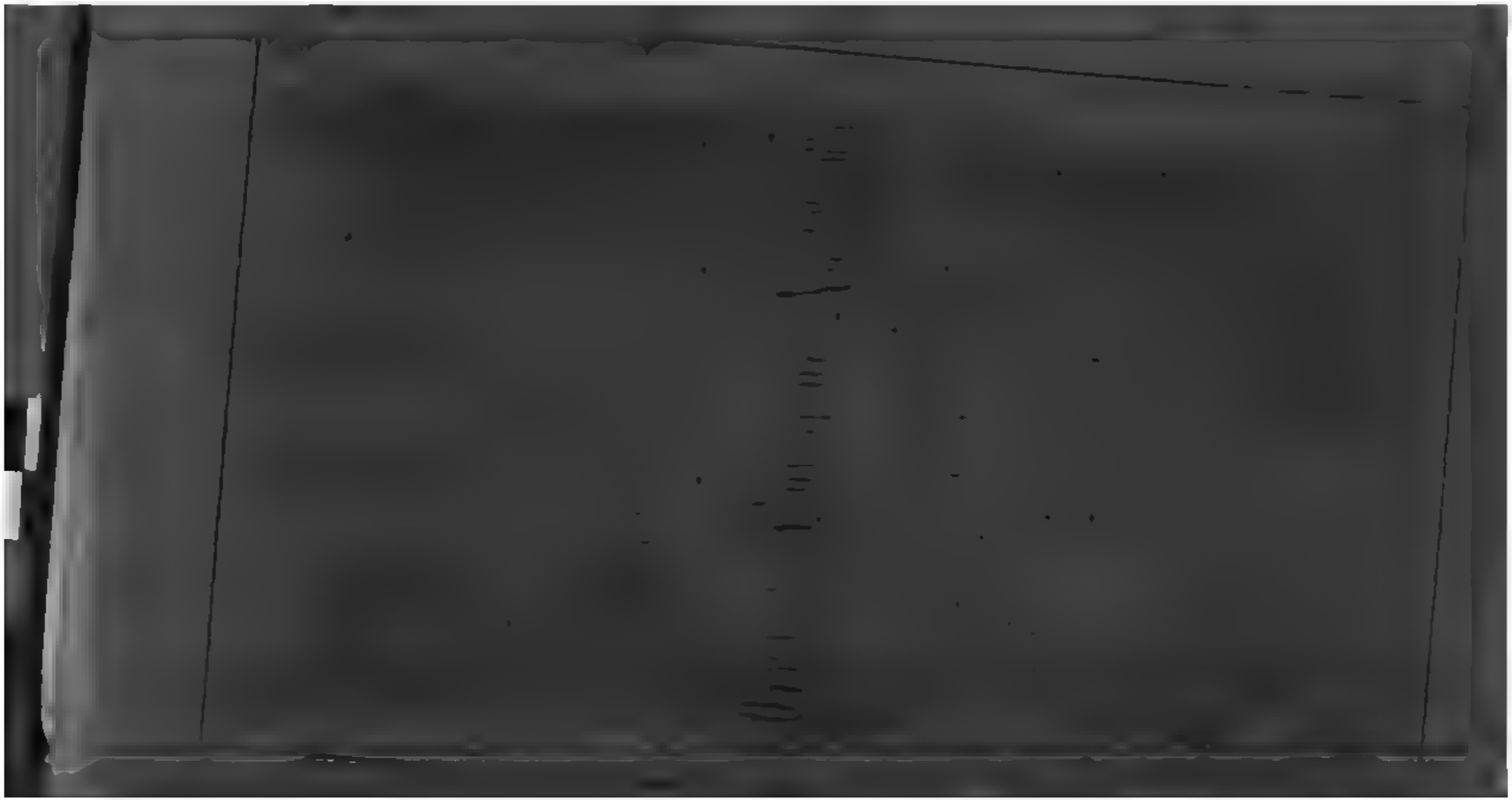
NOTICE TO SECRETARIES OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

☞ Every Lodge shall elect its officers at the regular Communication immediately preceding the Festival in June, *and make due return to the Grand Secretary* as soon as the officers are installed, which shall take place as soon as practicable thereafter. *Constitution of the Grand Lodge. Article VI, Section 16.*

In case Secretaries of Subordinate Lodges should not receive BLANK RETURNS by the 1st of October, or if they should fail to receive these Proceedings in a reasonable time, they are requested to write for them, and inform the Grand Secretary how to forward them.

The Annual Communications of "The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama and its Masonic Jurisdiction," are held in the New Masonic Temple, in the City of Montgomery, on the first Monday in December of each and every year.

[illegible] Proceedings [illegible] by successive mails to [illegible] Secretaries, unless they are sent to the latter in one [illegible] please write for them, and [illegible]



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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

OF THE

GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA,

HELD IN THE

CITY OF MONTGOMERY,

COMMENCING DECEMBER 6TH, A. D. 1880, A. L. 5880.

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA:
BARRETT & BROWN, STEAM PRINTERS AND BOOK BINDERS.
1881.

PROCEEDINGS.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama and its Masonic Jurisdiction, commenced the Sixtieth Annual Grand Communication at the New Masonic Temple, in the City of Montgomery, on the Evening of Monday, the 6th day of December, A. D. 1880, A. L. 5880.

PRESENT:

HENRY CLAY TOMPKINS.....Grand Master.
RUFUS WILLS COBB.....Deputy Grand Master.
JOHN HOLLIS BANKHEAD.....Senior Grand Warden.
JOHN GIDEON HARRIS.....Junior Grand Warden.
WILLIAM HENRY DINGLEY.....Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE.....Grand Secretary.
REV. WILLIAM CARY BLEDSOE.....Grand Chaplain.
HENRY HART BROWN, *as*.....Grand Marshal.
ISAAC CUNNINGHAM HALL.....Senior Grand Deacon.
WILLIAM WALLACE McCOLLUM, *as*.....Junior Grand Deacon.
ADAM RIEGART BAKER.....Grand Steward.
JOHN WILLIAM MARTIN.....Grand Steward.
JAMES DAVIDSON.....Grand Tiler.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS:

DAVID CLOPTON.....Grand Master.
WILSON WILLIAMS.....Grand Master.
JOSEPH H. JOHNSON.....Grand Master.
ISAIAH A. WILSON.....Grand Master.
PALMER J. PILLANS.....Grand Master.
HENRY CLAY ARMSTRONG.....Grand Master.
SAM THOMPSON.....Deputy Grand Master.
JAMES M. BRUNDIDGE.....Junior Grand Warden.
BENJAMIN F. POPE.....Junior Grand Warden.

REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER GRAND LODGES.

Wilson Williams	Arkansas.
Stephen H. Beasley	British Columbia.
George F. Moore	Canada.
David Clopton	Florida, Louisiana.
Joseph H. Johnson, M. D	Georgia.
John Gideon Harris	Idaho.
Daniel Sayre	Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Missouri, Nova Scotia, Oregon.
Peleg Brown	Indiana.
William A. O'Hara, M. D	Ireland.
Henry Clay Armstrong	Indian Territory.
Palmer J. Pillans	Nebraska, New Mexico, Wisconsin.
Oliver S. Beers	New Jersey.
Henry Clay Tompkins	New York.
Isaiah A. Wilson	Pennsylvania.
George P. Harrison Jr	Prince Edward Island.
Daniel Smith	Vermont.

And the Masters, Wardens, and *Proxies*, from Subordinate Lodges, as follows:

No.	4.	Rising Virtue	William G. Cochran*	W. M.
			Joseph T. Garner	J. W.
"	6.	Moulton	Noble G. Delashaw*	S. W.
"	7.	Macon	James S. Dickinson	W. M.
"	8.	Farrar	Sam Thompson	"
"	11.	Montgomery	Emil Kulman	"
			Joseph V. Gonzales	S. W.
			Charles A. Stern	J. W.
"	16.	Athens	Joseph A. Moore	W. M.
"	22.	Saint Albans	James M. Quinney	S. W.
"	25.	Dale	James T. Beck	W. M.
			Lucky W. Jenkins*	S. W.
"	26.	La Fayette	Charles E. Waller*	W. M.
			Elisha Young	J. W.
"	27.	Selma Fraternal	William W. McCollom*	W. M.
			George Peacock*	J. W.
"	31.	Autauga	Albert W. McNeel*	W. M.
"	39.	Wetumpka	William S. Penick*	"
			Thomas P. Whitby*	S. W.
"	40.	Mobile	William S. Foster	W. M.
"	41.	Livingston	George C. Gowdey*	"
"	44.	Gaston	Hannibal H. McNeille*	"
"	46.	Harmony	James Milton	"
"	49.	Demopolis	Charles Boas Whitfield	S. W.

*Proxies.

No.	51.	Jefferson	Elijah S. Hardwick	W. M.
"	52.	New Market	Francisco Rice	"
"	53.	Greening	George R. Farnham	W. M.
			Stephen D. Sawyer*	S. W.
"	54.	Amity	Thomas C. Clark*	J. W.
"	56.	Troy	Samuel R. Cotton	W. M.
"	57.	Tuskegee	James A. Bilbro	"
			Jesse L. Adams	S. W.
			John C. Smith	J. W.
"	59.	Benton	William H. May*	S. W.
			John W. Robinson*	J. W.
"	62.	Saint John	James G. Cowan	W. M.
"	64.	Eureka	James L. Dunklin*	"
"	65.	Liberty	Joseph A. Groves	"
"	67.	Hampden Sidney	Edwin H. Robinson	"
"	68.	Holsey	James M. Wright*	"
"	69.	Howard	Oliver S. Beers*	"
			Daniel Smith*	S. W.
"	70.	Central	Thomas B. McClesky	"
"	71.	Tohopeka	Henry A. Garrett*	"
"	72.	Widow's Son	Elkanah Burson*	"
"	75.	Cokerville	Tempton M. Hollaway	"
"	76.	Auburn	Leonidas W. Payne	W. M.
			George P. Harrison Jr*	S. W.
"	78.	Crozier	John J. Young	"
"	79.	Fredonia	Henry E. Hurst	W. M.
"	81.	Saint Stephens	Thomas H. Bailey	"
"	82.	Bellefonte	Preston Brown*	"
"	83.	Friendship	Jesse P. Taylor	S. W.
"	84.	Erophotic	John J. Murphree*	"
			Edgar A. McFerren	J. W.
"	88.	Meridian Sun	William R. Srygley	S. W.
"	89.	Prattville	George F. Smith	W. M.
"	90.	Pfister	James G. Kelly*	"
"	91.	Henry	Newell M. Thornton*	"
"	96.	Tuckabatchee	David D. Kent	"
			William P. Duncan	S. W.
			Joseph S. Terry*	J. W.
"	97.	Lozahatchee	Benjamin F. Savage*	S. W.
"	98.	Fulton	Frederick H. Smith	W. M.
			William L. Kirkpatrick*	S. W.
"	101.	Hartwell	Stephen C. Williams	W. M.
			Daniel P. Gunnells*	S. W.
"	102.	Newbern	Charles W. Turpin	"
"	105.	Shiloh	Thomas H. Bradford*	W. M.
"	106.	Hermon	Joseph R. Ramsey	"
"	108.	Oak Bowery	Hiram M. Bloodworth	"
			John T. Hester*	S. W.
"	111.	Sylvan	James Collier Foster	W. M.
"	117.	Perryville	William W. Smith	"
"	119.	Notasulga	Ralph T. Armstrong	"
			Adam S. Armstrong*	S. W.
			William S. Ford*	J. W.

*Proxies.

No. 120.	Camp Hill	Andrew J. Shepherd	J.	W.
" 123.	Havana	Albert M. Avery*	W.	M.
" 124.	Felix	Haygood Pipkin	S.	W.
" 126.	Mortimer Reeder	John L. Thomas	J.	W.
" 127.	Bolivar	Thomas Boyd Foster	W.	M.
" 131.	Yorkville	Samuel C. Nabers	"	
" 132.	Roanoke	Benjamin F. Weathers*	"	
" 133.	Loachapoka	Wiley W. Bloodworth	"	
		David C. Armstrong	S.	W.
		Julius C. Phillips*	J.	W.
" 134.	Wiley	Enoch P. Salter*	S.	W.
" 135.	Columbia	Harrison Purcell	W.	M.
" 136.	Unity	Charles L. Davis	J.	W.
" 140.	Shelby	Amos M. Elliott	W.	M.
		Benjamin F. Wilson	S.	W.
		Alfred S. Hirscher*	J.	W.
" 141.	Bethel	Robert U. McCaghren*	W.	M.
" 142.	Baldwin	David C. Byrne	"	
" 143.	Burleson	William J. Thorne*	"	
" 145.	Fraternity	Stephen C. Allgood*	S.	W.
" 146.	Missouri	David S. Bethune*	W.	M.
" 148.	Cold Water	John A. Vance	"	
" 153.	Monroeville	John DeLoach	"	
" 154.	Nixburgh	John C. Renton*	S.	W.
" 158.	Maysville	Thaddeus B. Connolly*	"	
" 163.	Fayetteville Authentic	William R. Phillips*	W.	M.
		George A. Hill	J.	W.
" 166.	Sumter	John N. Gilmore*	W.	M.
" 170.	Elba	Francis M. Rushing*	"	
		James M. Saunders*	S.	W.
		John B. Simmons*	J.	W.
" 171.	Clopton	John H. Weed	W.	M.
" 172.	Fellowship	Elias A. Brown	"	
" 173.	Andrew Jackson	Julius T. Glaze	"	
		Henry C. Davidson	S.	W.
		Henry H. Matthews	J.	W.
" 175.	Ezel	Oliver C. Rushton	W.	M.
" 176.	Davie	Charles Crawley	"	
		James T. Crawley	S.	W.
" 178.	Desotoville	James M. Allen	J.	W.
" 181.	Aberfoil	Jeptha D. Pritchett	W.	M.
		Howell L. Peebles	S.	W.
		William Pritchett	J.	W.
" 185.	Mount Eagle	Richard H. Hunt	W.	M.
" 186.	Catawla	James T. Greene	"	
" 187.	Landmark	Richard D. Lucius	"	
" 188.	Clintonville	Alfred McGee	"	
" 189.	Delta	Charles Nicholson*	"	
" 190.	Tombigbee	John W. Jones	"	
" 191.	Brush Creek	Marion C. Hall	"	
" 192.	Chattahoochee	John E. Dixon*	"	
" 193.	Hopewell	James Armstrong Jr.	"	
		Andrew J. Armstrong	S.	W.
		James F. Armstrong*	J.	W.

*Proxies.

No. 197.	Hillabee	George W. Porter	S. W.
" 199.	Kiligee	Nathan Landers	"
" 200.	Sylacauga	William J. Evans*	W. M.
		William D. Wallis*	J. W.
" 204.	Manning Spring	Charles McDade*	W. M.
" 208.	Alexandria	Emmett F. Crook	S. W.
" 209.	Marshall	Solomon Palmer	W. M.
" 211.	York	Benjamin M. Long*	"
" 215.	Builders	Claborn H. Gorman	"
" 218.	Sam Dixon	John S. Blair	"
		Reuben T. Ewing*	S. W.
" 219.	Lineville	Alexander Beck	W. M.
" 223.	Sandy Ridge	John C. Fonville	"
		George N. Powell*	J. W.
" 224.	Newton	Richard A. Ramsey	W. M.
" 225.	Louisville	Christopher C. Lee*	"
" 227.	James Penn	William H. Stuckey	"
		Augustin S. Clark*	S. W.
" 230.	Bexar	John Arnold	W. M.
" 231.	Duck Spring	Robert M. Crump	S. W.
" 233.	Sepulga	Daniel D. Bennett	W. M.
" 235.	Harpersville	William A. O'Hara	"
" 237.	Tallassee	Robert T. Ashurst	"
		Solomon T. Strickland*	S. W.
		Andrew Boland	J. W.
" 238.	Fairmount	Zebulon Terry	W. M.
		Adam L. Pierce	S. W.
" 241.	Bowen	Theodore Tiedeman	"
" 242.	Coosa	Isaac C. Hall	W. M.
" 243.	Ramer	Anthony H. Sellers	"
" 244.	Dawson	James H. Shine	"
" 246.	Harrison	John A. Law	"
" 247.	Cropwell	James D. Truss*	"
		John S. Maddox*	J. W.
" 250.	Amand	Moses D. Pinson	W. M.
		William N. Jones*	S. W.
" 251.	Camp Creek	Thomas L. Quillian	W. M.
" 252.	North Port	Henry H. Brown	"
" 254.	Quitman	Thomas M. J Porter	"
" 257.	Ervin	David Monasco*	"
" 258.	Randolph	Redin D. Hicks*	"
" 261.	Talladega	Myles J. Greene	"
		James H. Joiner*	S. W.
		Joseph H. Johnson*	J. W.
" 262.	Highland	Robert F. Johnson	W. M.
" 264.	Walnut Grove	Addison F. Whitley	J. W.
" 267.	Wind Creek	John Y. Johnson	W. M.
" 270.	Butler Springs	Thomas H. Barge	"
" 271.	Pea River	William T. Chapman	"
" 275.	Frankfort	Nimrod T. Underwood*	"
" 278.	Northern	John W. Grayson*	"
" 280.	Springville	Andrew J. Nunnelley	"
		Basil M. Hill	S. W.

*Proxies.

No. 281.	Charles Baskerville	Gustavus Legg*	W. M.
" 282.	Richmond	Mark Ethridge	"
" 285.	Georgiana	Amasa L. Palmer	"
" 287.	Clinton	Levi Wilkinson	"
" 291.	Fort Deposit	Thomas Blake	"
" 301.	Norris	John C. Hanberry	S. W.
" 304.	Zion	William A. Musgrove*	W. M.
" 305.	Central City	Julius C. Adler	"
" 319.	Cluttsville	John S. Bronaugh	"
" 320.	Warrenton	Alexander W. Black	"
" 321.	Pleasant Hill	Balus Donaldson*	"
" 324.	Viola	Uriah Tidwell	"
" 329.	Madison Station	George R. Sullivan	"
" 330.	Forkland	James P. Rogers	S. W.
" 331.	Charity	Pleasant M. Fancher	W. M.
" 337.	Johnson	John D. Massey	"
" 338.	Georgiana Davis	John M. Franklin*	"
" 340.	Clear Creek	Anderson Ward	"
" 341.	Ragan	David C. Wright	J. W.
" 345.	Echo	William G. Peacock*	W. M.
" 346.	Hurtville	Edward N. Brown	"
" 348.	Bienville	Palmer J. Pillans	"
" 349.	Ozark	Angus M. Scott	"
		Jesse M. Carmichael*	S. W.
" 354.	Heaton	Enoch Carter*	J. W.
" 357.	Rutledge	Noel J. Ganey	"
" 358.	Barbour	John D. Blocker	W. M.
" 359.	Scottsboro	Milton P. Brown	"
" 365.	Houston	Patrick H. Newman*	"
" 368.	Cross Plains	Andrew J. Sitton	"
		Thomas P. Savage*	S. W.
" 369.	Athelstan	Thomas P. Brewer	W. M.
" 373.	Bell's Landing	Calvin C. Nettles	"
" 375.	Gainesville	Edward N. Kring	"
" 376.	Santa Creek	Sebron Phillips	"
" 378.	Weogufka	Thomas S. McDonald*	"
		John A. Sears*	S. W.
" 379.	Robert E. Lee	David W. Ramsey	W. M.
" 380.	Ohatchee	Eli D. Meharg	"
		Henry F. Montgomery	S. W.
" 381.	E. H. Cook	Thomas C. Seltzer	"
" 383.	Ben Pope	Benjamin F. Pope*	W. M.
" 384.	Birmingham Fraternal	James B. Luckie*	"
		George W. Craik*	S. W.
" 385.	Munford	George Johnson*	"
" 386.	Trinity	James D. Faulkner*	W. M.
" 388.	Newburgh	William J. Thompson	S. W.
" 389.	Vernon	Robert J. Redden*	W. M.
		John H. Bankhead*	S. W.
" 390.	Weathers	James W. Swann	W. M.
" 391.	North Border	James C. Gordon*	"
" 395.	Opelika	Wilson Williams*	"
" 396.	Falkville	James T. Morris	"

*Proxies.

No. 398.	Hartselle	John F. Turney	W. M.
" 399.	Haw Ridge	Benjamin F. Warren	"
		Samuel D. Clark*	S. W.
		Phillip King	J. W.
" 400.	Hanceville	Aaron T. House	W. M.
		Andrew J. Manning	J. W.
" 404.	Hoboken	John W. Young	S. W.
" 406.	Doric	Lovic H. Godwin	W. M.
		Duke M. Hornsby	S. W.
" 410.	Helena	Rufus Wills Cobb*	W. M.
		Howace W. Bowers*	S. W.
" 411.	Jemison	German Crosby*	W. M.
" 412.	Amberson	George D. Hanks	"
		John D. Akins*	S. W.
" 415.	Oak Level	Wilson P. Howell*	J. W.
" 417.	George Smith	William C. Howton	W. M.
" 419.	Hilton	James Hilton	"
" 421.	Cullman Fraternal	Thaddeus W. McMinn	"
		Asa B. Hays*	S. W.
" 422.	Shorterville	Byrd G. Farmer	S. W.
" 423.	Clanton	William D. Sartor	W. M.
" 424.	George Wilson	Samuel Campbell*	J. W.
" 425.	Temple	James H. Graham	S. W.
" 426.	Daniel Pratt	James Kent*	"

* Proxies.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form.

Prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, Brother William C. Bledsoe.

The M. W. Grand Master, Brother Henry Clay Tompkins, delivered his Annual Address, and on motion of Brother Isaiah A. Wilson, it was referred to a special—

COMMITTEE ON GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

Joseph H. Johnson, P. G. M.
Palmer J. Pillans, P. G. M.
Henry Clay Armstrong, P. G. M.

GRAND MASTER'S ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Brethren of the Grand Lodge:

It is with most sincere pleasure that I greet you, assembled in your yearly convocation to consider the interests, and legislate for the welfare of our beloved Craft. These annual gatherings have always been a source of most unalloyed gratification to me, and I feel assured that my experience is the experience of all those who have been in the habit of meeting in these assemblies. Nothing so tends to encourage man in the earnest and persistent prosecution of any work as the knowledge of the fact that in his labors he has the sympathy, and his object meets the approval, of the noble and true of the human race. When we meet here, therefore, and see how many of the best citizens of our State are gathered together, for the purpose of propagating the same pure principles—charity and brotherly love—and all actuated by the same noble motive—the alleviation of suffering—we can but be benefited; and our resolve to teach by our lives those lessons of truth and purity which our Order seeks to impress upon all who bow before its altars, must be strengthened.

FAVORABLE AUSPICES.

I congratulate you upon the favorable auspices under which we meet. The Grand Architect of the Universe has, during the past twelve

months, showered upon us many of His choicest and richest blessings. The hand of the dread pestilence, that two years ago brought gloom and sorrow to so many of our hearthstones, and that last year ravaged so many of our neighboring cities, and was the cause of so much uneasiness and fear in our own borders, has been, through His mercy, stayed in its dire course, and a season of almost unparalleled good health has prevailed throughout our land, while peace and prosperity smile upon us from every side. For these manifold blessings let us not forget to bestow praises upon Him to whom all praises are due. Last year we mourned the deaths of several of those brethren whose frequent attendance upon this body had made them known, and whose unselfish devotion to, and earnest labors in, the interests of masonry, had endeared them to us all. It is then with the greatest pleasure and the sincerest thankfulness, that I am enabled to announce to you that I have not been informed of the death, during the last twelve months, of a single brother who has been prominent in our deliberations. Our relations with our brethren in other jurisdictions have been most amicable and pleasant. During my term of office, not a single controversy has arisen with any of them, and no question of conflict has been presented for my action.

APPOINTMENTS MADE.

During the year I have made the following appointments to represent this Grand Lodge near other Grand Lodges, viz: Brother Dwight R. Adams, near that of Rhode Island; Brother Donald Darrach, near that of Prince Edward Island; and Brother Alexander Alfred Green, near that of British Columbia. I have nominated and have been officially notified of the appointment of the following brethren to represent other Grand Bodies near this Grand Lodge: Brother Horatio C. Grayson to represent the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island; Brother George P. Harrison Jr. to represent the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island; Brother George F. Moore to represent the Grand Lodge of Canada; and Brother Stephen H. Beasley to represent the Grand Lodge of British Columbia. These Brethren are, I believe, present, and doubtless it will be the pleasure of the Grand Lodge to properly receive them.

NEW MEXICO.

On the 31st of May last, I was notified, through P. G. M. Pillans, Representative of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico near this Grand Lodge, of the action of the M. W. Grand Master of that jurisdiction, arresting and annulling the charter of Silver City Lodge No. 465, at Silver City, New Mexico, for contumacy; and declaring that all communications held or pretended to be held by said lodge, after the 22d day of April, 1880, unauthorized, illegal and clandestine.

DISPENSATIONS.

I have, during the year, granted the following dispensations, viz:

To Athelstan Lodge No. 369, to hold an election for Senior Warden, that officer having permanently removed from the jurisdiction.

To Daniel Pratt Lodge No. 426, to elect a Junior Warden; and to Hanceville Lodge No. 400, to elect a Master and two Wardens, those officers having, in each case, permanently removed from the jurisdiction.

Granted dispensations, also, to the following lodges, to elect officers at another than the time prescribed by the constitution, they, for good cause shown, having failed to elect at the meeting preceding the Festival in June, viz:

Holsey Lodge No. 68.
Quitman Lodge No. 254.
Holly Grove Lodge No. 323.
Blue Eye Lodge No. 332.
Highland Lodge No. 262.

And also granted a dispensation to elect officers to George Wilson Lodge No. 424, a newly chartered lodge.

On application therefor, I have granted dispensations to meet until this communication of the Grand Lodge, upon the payment of their dues, to the following lodges which had previously forfeited their charters, viz:

Mount Eagle Lodge No. 185.
Coffeeville Lodge No. 122.
Munford Lodge No. 385.
Perryville Lodge No. 117.

I also granted a dispensation to Felix Lodge No. 124 to continue to

work without a charter until this communication, the hall and charter of said Lodge having been destroyed by fire; and I recommend that said lodge be given a new charter free of charge.

I also granted two dispensations to Eureka Lodge No. 64, one to lay the corner stone of the City Building, and the other to lay the corner stone of the Collegiate Institute, both located in Greenville.

It will be noticed in the above that I have been several times called upon to grant dispensations to elect officers, in the place of those who, after election, at the regular communication preceding the Festival in June, had removed out of the jurisdiction. In some instances it was reported to me that this loss of officers had occasioned serious inconvenience to the lodges, and I have no doubt that it was so. No brother should permit himself to be elected to any one of the first three stations in a lodge, unless he expects to be in a position, during the term for which he is elected, to discharge its duties, because, frequently, the absence of any one of those officers may seriously affect and retard the prosperity of a lodge.

DECISIONS.

During the year I have been frequently called upon for opinions upon questions of masonic law; many of them were questions that have been so frequently decided that I thought they were as familiar to masons as household words. In accordance with the requirements of the edicts of this Grand Lodge, I submit herewith the opinions rendered by me, except on a few points where they were merely the repetition of the rulings of former Grand Masters which had been submitted to and approved by the Grand Lodge. *Held*—

1st. It is not necessary that the minutes of a lodge should be signed by either the W. M. or the brother occupying the chair *pro tem.*, unless there is some by-law of the particular lodge requiring it to be done. The signature of the Secretary is sufficient.

2nd. After a brother has been once regularly tried for an offense, he cannot be again tried for the same offense, unless by order of the Grand Lodge, or unless it is made to appear to the lodge having jurisdiction of the cause, that new and important testimony, unknown to the lodge at the time of the first trial, has been discovered.

3rd. Where a petition for Initiation has been received and acted on,

and the candidate rejected, a motion to reconsider and take another ballot may be immediately entertained, unless forbidden by some by-law of the lodge; but such motion must be considered, and the ballot taken at the same communication at which the candidate is rejected, and cannot be considered at a subsequent communication. Such matter cannot be brought before the lodge at a subsequent communication, except by the filing of another petition, which second petition must be received, referred, and acted upon, in the same manner as the first one presented.

4th. Where a brother has been suspended for non-payment of dues, and desires a dimit, he must first pay to his lodge all dues that accrued against him up to the date of his suspension, and also all dues accruing during the time of his suspension, before his application can be acted upon.

5th. Where a petition for Initiation has been balloted upon, and a black ball cast, and the Master orders a second ballot, if upon such second ballot a black ball is found in the box, it is the duty of the Master to declare the candidate rejected. He should not, and cannot, permit another ballot.

6th. The use of insulting and abusive language in writing or speaking of a brother is a masonic offense; so, also, is sending to him a challenge to fight a duel with deadly weapons. The fact that the brothers engaged afterwards settle the difficulty between themselves, does not relieve the offender from the liability to answer to the lodge having jurisdiction, but may be considered by such lodge in mitigation of the punishment. A mason who violates his masonic duties not only commits an offense upon the party injured, but brings reproach upon the Craft at large.

7th. Masonry does not undertake in any way to interfere with the religious views entertained by a member of the fraternity, however erroneous they may be regarded by a large majority of the Craft. But if a mason should habitually, either in public or private, advocate and teach a doctrine which upholds and indorses a relation which is in direct violation of the laws of the land, and the moral sentiment of our civilization—such as polygamy--he would be guilty of a masonic offense.

8th. Where a profane has regularly petitioned for, and been elected to the first degree in masonry, and after such election fails, or refuses, to take the degree, he has no right to have refunded to him the Initiation fee, which the constitution requires shall accompany all petitions for Initiation.

9th. That the act of having illicit sexual intercourse with a woman of lewd habits, is not the masonic offense of violating the chastity of a M. M. daughter, although her father has been, or is, a M. M. If a mason seduces the daughter of a M. M., and afterwards marries her, that fact should be considered by the lodge in mitigation, or might even excuse, according to the circumstances of the case, to be determined by the lodge on the trial.

10th. Where charges are preferred against a brother and he has been arraigned for trial, such charges become the property of the lodge, and cannot be withdrawn even by the prosecutor, except by the unanimous consent of the brethren present. Any member has a right to insist upon a trial thereupon.

11th. Where a lodge forfeits its charter all of its property of every description escheats to the Grand Lodge; this includes all the dues which have accrued to such lodge against its members, up to the date such forfeiture is declared. One who was a member of such lodge at the time the forfeiture was declared, upon paying to the Grand Secretary all the dues that had accrued against him to it, at the time of such forfeiture, is entitled to receive a certificate, which will authorize him to apply to any other lodge for affiliation.

12th. The lodge expelling or suspending one of its members, may restore him to the rights and privileges of masonry, and also to membership in the lodge; but each proposition should be voted upon separately and in the order mentioned. Whether the lodge should so restore in any particular case, must be determined by each member for himself, upon the circumstances of the case. Scarcely any offense can be so gross as to place the offender beyond the pale of repentance and forgiveness; and if one convicted of an offense, gross though it may have been, has, by years of subsequent good conduct, shown that he has repented of his past misconduct, there is nothing in the laws, or in the spirit of masonry, which would shut him off from forgiveness and

restoration. No dues accrue against one who has been thus suspended or expelled for unmasonic conduct during the period of such suspension or expulsion.

13th. There is no masonic regulation which prohibits the Chaplain from closing his prayer with the words "*for Christ sake.*" Whether or not it is proper to do so must be determined by each lodge for itself, from the circumstances surrounding the lodge. No brother should use in a lodge a form of prayer to which another brother has conscientious objections; but, as stated above, this is a matter to be regulated by each particular lodge.

14th. If, after one has been tried, convicted, and sentenced, and the Master, deeming the punishment inadequate, has refused to inflict it, and appealed to the Grand Lodge, he (the offending party,) commits another offense against masonic law, it is the right and duty of his lodge to have charges preferred against him and to try him for such subsequent offense, notwithstanding the pendency of the appeal in the first case.

15th. One rejected on an application for Initiation, may file another petition to the same lodge at any subsequent communication, unless prohibited by the by-laws of the lodge. Such subsequent petition must be referred to a committee, and take the same course as the first one.

16th. Where one has received the E. A. degree in a lodge, and subsequently receives a certificate authorizing him to apply to any other lodge for advancement, and he makes such application and is rejected, if he afterwards moves out of the jurisdiction of the lodge rejecting him, and desires to make application to the lodge in his new jurisdiction, it is not necessary that he should obtain the consent of such rejecting lodge to entitle him to make such application.

17th. There is nothing in the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, or in the principles and usages of masonry, which prohibits a subordinate lodge from appointing a standing committee, whose duty it is made to investigate complaints that may come to their knowledge, of violations of masonic law, and in proper cases to prefer charges against the offenders. On the contrary, such a regulation is rather to be commended.

18th. Where one, who was Initiated in an army lodge, regularly constituted, desires to be advanced, and the records of the lodge in which

he was made an E. A., have been lost or destroyed, the lodge in whose jurisdiction he resides, may, upon satisfactory evidence that he has been so Initiated, receive his petition for advancement, and if worthy, may confer the other degrees upon him.

19th. A Dimit granted by a lodge within a foreign jurisdiction, is not evidence that such lodge is one legally constituted, unless under the seal of the lodge. If such lodge is not required by the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, under whose jurisdiction it works, to have a seal, then such dimit should be accompanied by a certificate of the Grand Secretary of such Grand Lodge under its seal, that the lodge granting it, is a legally constituted lodge working in that jurisdiction, and that the signature thereto, is the signature of the brother, who was, at the time the same was signed, Secretary of such lodge.

20th. An election of officers is valid if seven members of the lodge are present. It is not necessary that a *majority* of such members should be present.

21st. The dues of a brother suspended for non-payment of dues, cannot be paid after his death so as to entitle him to a masonic burial.

22nd. A petition for advancement may be renewed at each subsequent Communication of the lodge.

23rd. A lodge, which tries one of its members and finds him guilty of an offense against masonic law, but fails to assess any punishment against him, is grossly derelict in its duty. Its action may, at any time during the same Communication be re-considered, provided the constitutional number are present. If it adjourns without assessing any punishment, the Master of the Lodge should either order a new trial, or take an appeal to the Grand Lodge. It is his duty to see that the Constitution is enforced. One who has been tried and convicted, but upon whom no punishment has been imposed, occupies the position of a mason against whom charges are pending, until the expiration of the time in which an appeal may be taken.

24th. A candidate who has been Initiated or Initiated and Passed, and has moved into the jurisdiction of another lodge, upon applying for a dismissal certificate is entitled to receive it, if in good standing. If any brother knows of any valid reason why such certificate should not be granted, he should prefer charges against the applicant, and if

such charges are not preferred in a reasonable time such certificate should be granted. The dismissal certificate issued to the E. A. or F. C. to enable him to apply to another lodge for advancement, is in the nature of a dimit, and the granting of it should be controlled by the same rules. Each lodge is a family, and any member has a right to object to any person becoming a member of that family, and cannot be called upon to disclose the grounds of such objection. But when one asks for a certificate, to entitle him to apply to another lodge for membership, whether by advancement or affiliation, he should receive it in good standing, unless the objections to him are sufficient to base charges upon and to bring him to trial.

25th. *Held*—1st, That where charges are preferred by a lodge or its committee against one of its members, it is not necessary that the copy of such charges, or that the notice of the time of trial, required to be served upon the accused should ge attested with the seal of the lodge.

2nd. That where in such a case, a committee has been appointed to take testimony, it is not necessary for the notice, required to be given by them, of the time and place of taking such testimony, to be signed by the Secretary or attested by the lodge seal.

3rd. It is not necessary for the summons issued to a member of a lodge, to attend a Communication, regular or special, to be under the seal of the lodge. A verbal notification by the Tiler is sufficient.

26th. To restore one, who has been expelled, to the rights and privileges of masonry, only a two-thirds vote is required, provided a majority of the lodge is present. To restore to membership requires a unanimous vote.

POLYGAMY.

From the above decisions it will be seen that various questions of masonic law have been presented to me, some very simple, that have been repeatedly decided, while there are many of more or less difficulty, and some that should receive the calm and careful consideration of this Grand Lodge. To two of them, which gave me special difficulty, not so much because I had any doubt of their correctness myself, but because others, for whose opinion I have the highest regard, differed with me upon one of them, and because in the other I have found the law in

some confusion, I wish to call the special attention of the Grand Lodge. The first one is embraced in ruling No. 7, and relates to the teaching of a religious doctrine which not only upholds polygamy, but make its practice a recommendation to consideration and respect. No principle, it seems to me, in masonic law, is better settled, than that masonry requires of its votary strict obedience to the laws of the land, and forbids his indulgence in those practices which are repulsive to the moral sentiment of our civilization. Polygamy is denounced as a grave crime in all civilized countries, and is severely punished. In our own State it is made a felony, and is punished, as perjury, the higher grades of larceny, and many other of the gravest offenses. I do not suppose it would be contended by any one, that a member of a lodge, who made a practice of inducing others to commit perjury, or larceny, would not thereby, be violating masonic law; and yet, those offenses are regarded by our law as of no more enormity than polygamy. It has been urged with me, however, that if the person were not undertaking to induce persons to violate the law in this State, but proposed to carry them to localities beyond the limits of the State, then they would not be guilty. This argument, however, is palpably unsound. The crime committed by one who induces, or undertakes to induce, another to swear falsely would be none the less in violation of our laws, because the false swearing was to be done in Georgia. Polygamy, as said above, is made a high crime by the laws of every State of this Union; it is true, it is practiced in one of the territories, but even there it is done in the face of a statute of Congress denouncing it as a high crime. Again, the practice is contrary to the moral sentiment of all civilized people, the opposition to it has been for centuries, crystallizing into this sentiment; and the strong prohibitory and penal laws enacted in all civilized countries against it are but the expressions of the sentiment, and clearly indicate how strong a hold it has on the people. So strong has the sentiment become, that there is scarcely a mason in the land, who, should his daughter be induced by the advocates of this doctrine to embrace polygamy, would not regard her as disgraced and himself as deeply and most grievously wronged. If any one, therefore, who is amenable to our laws inculcates and proclaims such a doctrine, I believe it is the duty of the Order to protect the homes of its members

from such invasions, by bringing the offender to speedy trial; and by inflicting upon him adequate punishment. The foregoing, and others equally as strong, are the reasons which led me to the conclusion announced in Ruling No. 7.

WHAT VOTE NECESSARY TO REINSTATE.

The other decision to which I wish to call your attention is embraced in Ruling No. 26, and is in relation to the vote necessary to restore to the rights and privileges of masonry, one who has been expelled. Upon an investigation of this question, I found an irreconcilable conflict of authority. In our own jurisdiction, some Grand Masters have held that a unanimous vote was necessary, while others have held the rule to be as announced by me. But I do not find that any of these decisions have been directly passed upon by the Grand Lodge, and as I deem the question one of great importance, I have considered it best, to thus call your attention to it, in order that it may be permanently settled. The standard elementary works upon masonic law also differ upon it. Mitchell holds the rule as declared by me to be the better one, and so it clearly appears to me.

AS TO UNMASONIC CONDUCT.

About the close of the last Communication I was handed a written notice charging that the master of a lodge in this jurisdiction, had on several occasions been guilty of conduct unbecoming a mason and greatly injurious to the Order. Shortly afterwards in accordance with the provisions of a resolution of this Grand Lodge, I appointed a committee to investigate the charges and to report to me the result of such investigation. Their report was received and fully sustained the charges. I then learned that the charter of the lodge over which the accused presided had been declared forfeited, and as thereby it was rendered impracticable for me to proceed as provided by the resolution, I took no further action in the matter.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

On the 24th of June, I visited Greening Lodge No. 53 and installed the officers of that lodge and of Georgiana Lodge No. 285. In July I visited Fayetteville Authentic Lodge No. 163. These are the only offi-

cial visitations I have been able to make during the past year. During the Summer, my engagements were such that I found it impossible to make any others. I had hoped to be able to make several others during the Fall, but other matters rendered it impracticable for me to do so. I very much regret this, as I believe that such visitations by the Grand Officers generally prove beneficial to the Craft, and I know they are always occasions of much pleasure to the officers. I think, that not only the Grand Master, but the Depnty and Wardens ought to make an effort to so arrange their private business as to give more time to the performance of this duty, and trust that in the futnre it will be done.

CONFERRING DEGREES OUT OF TIME.

I have had one application for a dispensation to confer the degrees *out of time*. I refused it, because I did not think the circumstances of the case justified it. The power is an extraordinary one, and I do not think it should ever be exercised, except in the most extreme cases.

APPLICATIONS FOR AID.

I have received during the year two applications for aid from other jurisdictions; one from the "Masonic Lodge, 'The Gail,' No. 609," Glasgow, Scotland, a lodge "founded" as it is stated in the petition, "for the express purpose of rendering the mysteries of initiation, &c., in the native Gaelic tongue;" and the other from the Directors of the Masonic Hall Association at Washington, D. C., received through M. W. Brother McCoy, Grand Master of the District of Columbia. I submit herewith both applications for such action thereon as this Grand Lodge may deem fit.

THE FRATERNITY PROSPEROUS.

I do not believe that at any time the condition of our Order has been more prosperous than at the present. Among its members are to be found many of the wisest and best of our land, and in its interests are enlisted the heartiest service of the true and the good. A worthy mason loves the Craft, and endeavors by his life to be a shining example of the grandeur and purity of its teachings; his charitable hand has entered many a desolate home, and made many a weary and heartsick soul rejoice; his kindly words have turned back many an erring step, and

preserved many a noble life, to bless and praise him. That our Order, that dates far back into the dim and distant past, stands to-day, far ahead of all other secret societies in numbers, in influence, and in works ; and still continues its onward march of progress ; speaks its merits, in a far more eloquent tongue than I can command. Since its origin other societies have arisen, have flourished for a few years, and then withered away as the green grass withers and perishes before the biting frosts and chilly winds of Autumn. Masonry alone continues, and her journey has ever been onward and upward. For all of this there must be a reason. It is because masonry is based and founded upon principles as imperishable as the everlasting hills. Upon us, Brethren, devolves the duty of continuing that onward march. It should be considered a most pleasant duty, and should be most cheerfully performed. The way is clear, so clear that he that runs may see. Let us, each one, resolve that we will walk in those paths pointed out by the hand of masonry, and let the world see that our tenets are something more than mere abstract theories ; that they are living, vital principles, by which our lives are guided. Let us not only resolve to do this, but let us do it. Let us guard well our portals ; the necessity of doing this, cannot be too strongly or too frequently impressed upon us. The true strength of a lodge is not to be measured by the number of its members, but by the characters of those members ; it is true that large numbers enable us to make a great display, but a too great desire for display, often sows the seeds of a lasting decay. We all desire to do our duty, then let us do it.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, my Brethren, we have met here for the purpose of deliberating upon, and legislating for, the interests of the Craft. Without deliberation, our legislation will not be for its interests. By hasty action, oftentimes, injury is done, that requires much time and labor to heal. It is often, if not always, better to take no action, than to act too hastily, for errors committed in haste are but too frequently discovered too late to remedy them. There is a world of wisdom in the old adage, "that haste makes waste." Let us then truly deliberate, and our ac-

tion here will always be a source of most pleasant recollection to us, and will redound to the harmony and prosperity of our ancient Order.

Fraternally submitted,

H. C. TOMPKINS,
Grand Master.

The Grand Treasurer made his Annual Report, and it was referred to the Committee on Finance. (*See appendix.*)

The Grand Secretary made his Annual Report, and it was referred to the Committee on Finance. (*See appendix.*)

RESTORING FORFEITED CHARTERS.

On motion of Brother Grand Secretary, all Lodges, the charters of which had been forfeited for non-representation for two years, and which have now paid up their Dues in full, and are represented, were reinstated.

REPORT ON THE E. A. DEGREE.

Brother Myles J. Greene, from the Committee on Work, made report on the E. A. Degree, and the report was received and concurred in.

SPECIAL ORDER FOR THE F. C. DEGREE.

On motion of Brother James M. Brundidge, the report on the F. C. Degree was made the special order for to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Brother Grand Secretary offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

AS TO FALKVILLE LODGE NO. 396.

Resolved, That the dues of Falkville Lodge No. 396, for the year 1879, be remitted, its Lodge room having been destroyed by fire.

Brother Jesse M. Carmichael offered the following preamble and resolution, and they were concurred in and adopted:

AS TO OAK LEVEL LODGE NO. 415.

WHEREAS, The dues from Oak Level Lodge No. 415 for the year 1879, A. L. 5879, were regularly transmitted by the Secretary with the annual returns of said Lodge to the Grand Secretary, in a registered package; and whereas, the said dues were not received by the Grand Secretary; therefore

Resolved, That the dues of said Lodge for said year, be and the same are hereby remitted and said Lodge released from any further obligation to pay the same.

Brother Myles J. Greene offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

AS TO LOACHAPOKA LODGE NO. 133.

Resolved, That the dues of Loachapoka Lodge No. 133 for the present year be remitted, and that a new charter be granted to it free of charge; its lodge-room, charter, furniture, and all its property having been destroyed by fire.

Brother John H. Bankhead, Grand Senior Warden, offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

AS TO MOSCOW LODGE NO. 205.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be, and he is hereby, authorized to issue to Brother William Harrison, formerly of Moscow Lodge No. 205, a certificate of good standing, upon the payment of the amount due by him to said lodge when its charter was surrendered.

And then, after prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow morning at 8½ o'clock.

IN GRAND LODGE.

TUESDAY MORNING, December 7, 1880.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 8½ o'clock, the M. W. Grand Master, Henry Clay Tompkins, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

Prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The minutes were read and approved.

REPORT ON THE F. C. DEGREE.

Brother Myles J. Greene, from the Committee on Work, made report on the F. C. Degree, and the report was received and concurred in.

SPECIAL ORDER FOR 8 O'CLOCK.

On motion of Brother James M. Brundidge the report on the M. M. Degree was made the Special Order for 8 o'clock this evening.

The M. W. Grand Master announced the following as the regular

STANDING COMMITTEES.

ON CHARTERED LODGES.

No. 1.

Horace W. Bowers,
Benjamin F. Warren,
Eli D. Meharg,
Thomas P. Savage,
Enoch Carter.

No. 2.

Angus M. Scott,
David C. Wright,
Anderson Ward,
John S. Bronaugh,
Uriah Tidwell.

No. 3.

George R. Sullivan,
Levi Wilkinson,
William T. Chapman,
Andrew J. Nunnelly,
David Monasco.

No. 4.

Gustavus Legg,
Amasa L. Palmer,
Thomas H. Barge,
Moses D. Pinson,
John Arnold.

No. 5.

James S. Dickinson,
Joseph A. Moore,
George Peacock,
Thomas P. Whitby,
Hannibal H. McNeill.

No. 6.

William S. Penick,
Charles B. Whitfield,
George R. Farnham,
William H. May,
Edwin H. Robinson.

No. 7.

Henry A. Garrett,
John J. Young,
Jesse P. Taylor,
James G. Kelly,
Leonidas W. Payne.

No. 8.

Thomas H. Bailey,
Edgar A. McFerran,
David D. Kent,
Frederick H. Smith,
Thomas H. Bradford.

No. 9.

Ralph T. Armstrong,
Andrew J. Shepherd,
Elbert M. Avery,
Thomas B. Foster,
Samuel C. Nabers.

No. 10.

James Collier Foster,
William W. Smith,
John L. Thomas.
David C. Armstrong,
David C. Byrne.

ON DISPENSATIONS.

No. 1.

John DeLoach,
Charles Crawley,
James M. Allen,
Howell L. Peebles,
John W. Jones.

No. 2.

Alfred McGee, Nathan Landers,
James Armstrong, Emmett F. Crook.
George W. Porter,

On Finance.

Oliver S. Beers, Theodore Tiedeman,
John A. Sears, Addison F. Whitby.
James D. Truss,

On By-Laws.

John Y. Johnston, John S. Blair,
Anthony H. Sellers, Alexander Beck.
William A. O'Hara,

On Propositions and Grievances.

Daniel Smith, Stephen C. Algood,
James Kent, John A. Vance.
William J. Thorne,

On Duties of Grand Officers.

William S. Ford, James C. Gordon,
Henry E. Hurst, James T. Morris.
Lovick H. Godwin,

On Leave of Absence.

William S. Foster, James Hilton,
Benjamin F. Savage, George D. Hanks.
James G. Cowan,

And then, after prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until this evening at 7 o'clock.

IN GRAND LODGE.

TUESDAY EVENING, December 7, 1880.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 7 o'clock, the M. W. Grand Master, Henry Clay Tompkins, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

Prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The minutes were read and approved.

Brother John A. Sears, heretofore appointed to take charge of the property of Rockford Lodge No. 137, which forfeited its charter in 1873, submitted a report, which, together with a petition from the members of Weogufka Lodge No. 378, was referred to the Committee on Propositions and Grievances.

Brother Joseph H. Johnson, P. G. M.; from the Special Committee on the Grand Master's address, made the following report, and it was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON THE GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

The Committee on the Grand Master's address, fervently joins the M. W. Grand Master in praises to *Him* to whom praise alone is due.

We have not had time to consider the able address, as we would be glad to do, but have contented ourselves with referring the several subjects of which it treats to appropriate Committees of the Grand Lodge.

So much as relates to the granting of Charters and Dispensations to the Committee on Dispensations.

The several rulings of the Grand Master, and especially Nos. 7 and 26, to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

Your Committee would suggest that 12 o'clock M., of Wednesday next, be fixed as the time for the reception and recognition, of Representatives, nominated by the Grand Master, and appointed by other Grand Jurisdictions to represent them near this Grand Lodge.

In conclusion, we congratulate the Fraternity, that notwithstanding many of us, in different sections of the State, have cause for regret and deep concern for the languishing condition of the fraternity in our midst, that the Grand Master, after a survey of the whole field, gives us cheering tidings of general prosperity throughout the jurisdiction.

Fraternally submitted,

JOSEPH H. JOHNSON, Chairman.
PALMER J. PILLANS,
H. CLAY ARMSTRONG.

Brother Henry A. Garrett, from the Committee on Chartered Lodge, No. 7, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 7.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 7, beg leave to report that they have carefully examined the Returns submitted to them, and find the following to be

CORRECT:

Mount Pleasant	No. 266	Gillespie	No. 290
Wind Creek	" 267	Fort Deposit	" 291
Butler Springs	" 270	Norris	" 301
Pea River, 1879 and 1880	" 271	Zion	" 304
Clifton	" 272	Central City	" 305
Frankfort	" 275	Jonesboro	" 315
Northern	" 278	Cluttsville	" 319
Spring Hill	" 280	Warrenton	" 320
Charles Baskerville	" 281	Pleasant Hill	" 321
Richmond, 1879 and 1880	" 282	Viola	" 324
Georgiana	" 285	Madison Station	" 329
Walker	" 286	Forkland, 1879 and 1880	" 330
Clinton	" 287		

All of which is fraternally submitted.

HENRY A. GARRETT,
Chairman.

Brother William Y. Titcomb, from the Committee on Suspensions, Expulsions, and Appeals, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

SUSPENSIONS, EXPULSIONS, AND APPEALS.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Suspensions, Expulsions, and Appeals, respectfully submits the following report:

APPEAL

Of Brother J. W. Jones, Wor. Master of Tombigbee Lodge No. 190, from the decision of said lodge in the case of James E. Adams, who was tried by said lodge under the charge of immoral and unmasonic conduct, with specifications setting forth that Adams was, on three occasions, in a state of intoxication from the use of spirituous liquors; and that, on a certain occasion indicated, he—Adams—made use of contemptuous and insulting language in respect of the masonic fraternity.

During the trial it became evident that there could be no reasonable doubt of Adams' guilt, save as regarded specification 3d, which accused him of intoxication in one instance. It also appeared that, some time after the use of the contemptuous and insulting language referred to, Adams intimated that he had probably said too much. The lodge voted him guilty, and reprimanded him. Satisfied of Adams' guilt, your Committee considers the penalty imposed on him quite too trivial. Such nominal punishments encourage the commission of similar, nay, even more aggravated offenses; they wink at repeated violations of masonic law.

We recommend that the decision of Tombigbee Lodge be reversed, and that James E. Adams be suspended from the privilcges of masonry for six months.

APPEAL

Of Brother John A. Milner from the decision of Monroeville Lodge No. 153, which enforced one of its by-laws, requiring that the unanimous consent of two-thirds of the members of said lodge shall be necessary to reinstate a person who has been suspended or expelled, in the case of a brother who had been suspended for a definite time, and who, the term of his suspension having expired, asked to be reinstated.

The Wor. Master held in accordance with the provisions of the

by-law above indicated, but Brother Milner appealed, from this decision, to the Grand Lodge.

Your Committee, being of the opinion that, in case of definite suspension, the party suspended does, at the expiration of his sentence, resume his good standing in the lodge, by operation of law, unless he be under new charges preferred, recommends that the decision of Monroeville Lodge No. 153, in said case, be, and is hereby reversed.

APPEAL

Of Brother C. A. Alexander from the decision of Hopewell Lodge No. 193, which exempted from trial and punishment James M. Reynolds and Stephen L. Smith, who were charged with *gross unmasonic conduct*, under specifications alleging that Reynolds used abusive and insulting language towards Smith and challenged him to mortal combat, and that, on the other hand, Smith used abusive and insulting language towards Reynolds, invited him to a trial of manhood in a pugilistic encounter, and sought to take the life of a Master Mason by accepting from him a challenge to mortal combat.

When the parties were ready for trial the Master asked Reynolds whether he did, or did not plead guilty, he—Reynolds—did plead guilty and ask the lodge to forgive him. Then the appellant objected that the lodge being in possession of the cause, the charges and specifications could not be withdrawn without unanimous consent; but the Worshipful Master overruled the objection and put the vote on withdrawal of the charges and forgiveness of Reynolds; and by a majority vote it was carried.

A like disposition was made of the case of Smith, save that the record fails to show a plea of guilt on the part of Smith.

To your Committee the brethren of Hopewell Lodge appear to have been derelict in duty; for they permitted these offenders to escape without the slightest penalty, not to mention their disregard of the Grand Master's ruling on the question of the right to withdraw charges, when a trial has began, without unanimous consent.

We recommend the following:—Hopewell Lodge No. 193 has incurred the censure of this Grand Lodge; further, James M. Reynold, is suspended indefinitely by action of the Grand Lodge, and said lodge be instructed to try Stephen L. Smith under said charges and specifications.

Brother Angus M. Scott, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 2, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 2.

We, the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 2, beg leave to make the following report. After investigation we find the following

CORRECT:

New Market	No. 52	Central	No. 70
Greening	" 53	Tohopeka	" 71
Amity	" 54	Widow's Son	" 72
Troy	" 56	Fredonia	" 79
Benton	" 59	Saint Stephens	" 81
Tompkinsville	" 61	Friendship	" 83
Eureka	" 64	Erophotic	" 84
Liberty	" 65	Meridian Sun	" 88
Hampden Sidney	" 67		

INCORRECT:

JEFFERSON No. 51.—For 2 years, the word *none* not inserted where it ought to be. Recapitulation not filled out.

TUSKEGEE No. 57.—Under the heading of Degrees conferred, the word *none* not written where it ought to be, and numbers in Recapitulation *lettered* out instead of being in figures.

SAINT JOHNS No. 62.—A neat Return and correct except not signed by the W. M.

SOCIAL No. 63.—A general carelessness pervades the whole Return. Heading not filled out. Initials used in nearly every name. J. R. Cox is set down in the list of members as Secretary, but it is signed by Charles H. Jernigan, as Secretary; and the latter is put down in the list of members as Treasurer. The fee for Raising is put down in the table of Fees at $10, but in the body of the certification it is thus—$00. The time of meeting is put down as the 15th in every month, which might be somewhat awkward if the 15th happened to come on Sunday. No Seal.

HOLSEY No. 68.—Seal put on upside down, and with wax, which is already crumbling. Date A. L. not filled out. One raised in July not put down in the list of members—due the G. L. 50 cents.

HOWARD No. 69.—Numbers in Recapitulation lettered out instead of being in figures according to directions.

COKERVILLE No. 75.—Initials and abbreviations used throughout the Return, list of members not numbered, errors in date corrected in pencil, and signed by the W. M. in pencil.

AUBURN No. 76.—Recapitulation not filled out, faint impression of a seal, but totally illegible.

CROZIER No. 78.—Error in recapitulation ; 2 were entered, but recapitulation says *none*.

WILCOX No. 80.—No Seal.

BELLEPONTE No. 82.—For 3 years generally incorrect.

PRATTVILLE No. 89.—Date A. D. and A. L. not filled out. Not signed by the W. M. Fee for Initiation set down at $10, whereas the constitution of the Grand Lodge requires that it shall not be less than $15.

PFISTER No. 90.—Abbreviations used, Seal illegible, wrong date in the caption in that it states—commencing on the 15th November 1880, instead of 1879.

Fraternally submitted.

ANGUS M. SCOTT,
Chairman.

REPORT ON THE M. M. DEGREE.

Brother Myles J. Greene, from the Committee on Work, made report on the M. M. Degree, and the report was received and concurred in.

Brother George R. Sullivan, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 3, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in :

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 3.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama :

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 3, have carefully examined the Returns submitted to them, and beg leave to report the following

CORRECT :

Tuckabatchee	No.	96	Notasulga	No.	119
Lozahatchee	"	97	Camp Hill	"	120
Hartwell	"	101	Herndon	"	125
Newbern –2 years	"	102	Mortimer Reeder	"	126
Shiloh	"	105	Yorkville	"	131
Hermon	"	106	Loachapoka	"	133
Oak Bowery	"	108	Wiley	"	134
Forest Hill	"	110	Columbia	"	135
Perryville	"	117			

INCORRECT :

HENRY No. 91.—Adds a column for the insertion of the dues to each name, which is not required by the blank return.

FULTON No. 98.—No date to reinstatements, not signed by the W. M.

SALEM No. 99.—Name of lodge not indorsed on the back.

GOOD SAMARITAN No. 104.—W. M. signed the return where the name of the lodge ought to be.

CHOCTAW No. 107.—Recapitulation lettered out, and not between the braces ; heading wrongly filled out for 1880 and 1881.

SYLVAN No. 111.—For 2 years, seal illegible and probably put on with lamp-black ; table of Dues does not state how many are paid for, and how many are M. G's.

HAVANA No. 123.—One M. M. put under the head of F. C , and date of Raising given as 14th Sep. 188; abbreviations used.

FELIX No. 124.—Date of heading of the Return not filled out ; date A. L. in certification not filled out, initials used, and fees in the certification do not agree with those in the table of Fees.

BOLIVAR No. 127.—No date to Suspensions N. P. D.

Fraternally submitted,

G. R. SULLIVAN,
Chairman.

Brother Gustavus Legg, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 4, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in :

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 4.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 4, have carefully examined the Returns submitted to them, and beg leave to report the following

CORRECT :

Unity	No. 136	Fayetteville Authentic.	No. 163
Shelby	" 140	Clopton	" 171
Bethel	" 141	Fellowship	" 172
Fraternity	" 145	Andrew Jackson	" 173
Missouri, 2 years	" 146	Davie	" 176
Eastaboga	" 155	Desotoville	" 178

INCORRECT :

BALDWIN No. 142.—Name not indorsed on the back, some faint appearance of a seal, but entirely illegible.

BURLESON No. 143.—The names of two who were entered, passed, and raised, are under all three heads. Being now M. M. their names should appear only under that head, with the dates affixed. In the table of Fees the lodge-dues per annum, *each member*, is set down at $11.50, which is obviously an error. Seal illegible.

DALEVILLE No. 144.—Seal illegible.

RODGERSVILLE No. 147.—Number of members not set down in the table of Dues, no seal.

COLD WATER No. 148.—Seal crank-sided and illegible.

MONROEVILLE No. 153.—Heading not filled out, table of Fees not filled out, seal illegible.

NIXBURGH No. 154.—The name of F. C. under both heads of E. A. and F. C., should only be under the latter with the proper dates.

MAYSVILLE No. 156.—Table of Dues not filled out, no date to Suspensions N. P. D., no post-office.

SUMTER No. 166.—Name not indorsed on the back, seal crank-sided.

BUENA VISTA No. 169.—Name and number not indorsed on the back, Recapitulation not filled out.

ELBA No. 170.—No seal.

EZEL No. 175.—Uses initials and abbreviations, has 14 members and pays dues for only 8, the other 6 not appearing to be M. G's., due the Grand Lodge $3.

MOUNT HILLIARD No. 180.—Heading erroneously filled out as commencing on the 15th of November 1880 instead of 1879.

Fraternally submitted,

GUSTAVUS LEGG,
Chairman.

Brother Horace W. Bowers, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 1, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 1.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 1, beg leave to make the following report. They have examined the Returns submitted to them, and find the following

CORRECT:

Helion, 1880	No. 1	Autauga	No. 31
Rising Virtue	" 4	Washington	" 36
Macon	" 7	Wetumpka	" 39
Farrar	" 8	Mobile	" 40
Athens	" 16	Livingston	" 41
Saint Albans	" 22	Gaston	" 44
La Fayette	" 26	Demopolis	" 49
Selma Fraternal	" 27	Union	" 50

INCORRECT:

HELION No. 1.—For 1879, initials and abbreviations used, suspensions N. P. D. in April.

MOULTON No. 6.—Table of Dues and Fees not filled out.

ROYAL WHITE HART No. 10.—No date to Reinstated and Rejected.

MONTGOMERY No. 11.—Entered since last Returns should be 3 instead ot 4.

DALE No. 25.—Initials and abbreviations throughout the Return.

RISING SUN No. 29.—Caption wrong as commencing in 1880 instead of 1879.

COURTLAND No. 37.—Seal illegible.

HIRAM No. 42.—No S. W. reported, probably dead, but a S. W. *pro tem.* should have been supplied.

HARMONY No. 46.—Disfigured by names being blotted ont.

Fraternally submitted,

HORACE W. BOWERS,
Chairman.

REPORT ON TESTIMONIAL.

Brother Joseph H. Johnson, P. G. M., from the Committee heretofore appointed to procure a testimonial for presentation to P. G. M. Henry Clay Armstrong, made a report that the duty had been performed, and that the testimonial was now ready for presentation, which report was received and the committee discharged; and the hour of $8\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock this evening was set for the presentation.

The Brother Grand Secretary offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

ROANOKE LODGE NO. 132.

Resolved, That Roanoke Lodge No. 132, which has ceased to work

for the last four years, be reinstated upon the payment of thirty five dollars of dues, and the members be authorized to assemble, elect officers, and proceed to work.

Brother Daniel Smith, from the Committee on Propositions and Greivances, made the following report:

REPORT ON PROPOSITIONS AND GRIEVANCES.

No. 1.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Propositions and Grievances, to whom was referred the petition of Social Lodge, No. 63, located at Enon, for permission to remove to "Three Notch", on the Montgomery & Eufaula Railroad, beg leave to report that they have carefully considered the same, and find that said Lodge has only twelve members, and, as set forth in their petition, contemplated removals will still further reduce their number, so that it will be impossible for them to keep up their organization unless their prayer is granted; that at "Three Notch" there are several non-affiliated masons, and others desirous of joining their Lodge if removed to that place; that it is a "flourishing place," and that there is a Lodge Hall there already prepared, and if permitted to move there they can keep up their organization and do well.

It further appears to your committee that "Three Notch" is within four miles of Midway Lodge, and as the "Grand Lodge Code" prohibits the establishment of new Lodges in such near proximity to each other, your Committee feels unauthorized to recommend the prayer of the petitioners.

But as it further appears to your committee that Midway Lodge had recommended, in proper form, the establishment of a *new* Lodge to be composed in part of Members of Social Lodge No. 63, to be located at "Three Notch." but *subsequently*, finding that Social Lodge desired to move to that place, has expressed a *preference* to such removal, rather than the establishment of a new Lodge there.

In view of the above facts, your committee most respectfully recommend that the subject be referred to the most Worshipful Grand Master with full power to act, as in his judgment may seem best for the interest of the fraternity.

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted.

DANIEL SMITH,
Chairman.

Which report was so amended by the Grand Lodge

as to recommend the removal, and then the report was concurred in.

And then, after prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock.

IN GRAND LODGE.

WEDNSDAY MORNING, December 8, 1880.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 11 o'clock, the M. W. Grand Master, Henry Clay Tompkins, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

Prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The minutes were read and approved.

SPECIAL ORDER.

Brother Isaiah A. Wilson, P. G. M. offered a resolution that the election of Grand Officers be made the special order for 8½ o'clock this evening, and the resolution was adopted.

Brother Oliver S. Beers, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following special report, and the report was received and concurred in:

SPECIAL REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to make a special report on the topic of controversial jurisdictional involvements, affecting Grand Lodges either in correspondence with, or seeking such intercourse, with this Grand Body.

They are happy to state that most of the disputes of that description, to which your attention has heretofore been called, have been satisfactorily adjusted, and in a manner equally creditable to the masonic character of the contestants, and promotive of the general recognition

and establishment of the American theory of Grand Lodge sovereignty. The controversies between the Grand Lodge of Quebec and that of Scotland, though still unadjusted, as is also the case with that, between the Grand Lodge of New York representing the American system of government and the Grand Lodge League of Germany, arising from the persistent claim of the latter to concurrent jurisdiction within American territory, indicate, in their present state, a nearer approach to *final* and satisfactory adjustment.

The regretable controversy among our brethren of Cuba, we are gratified to announce, has been *amicably* and honorably settled; resulting in the establishment of one United Grand Lodge on that Island, recognizing and founded upon the American principle of the independent and exclusive control of the Grand Lodge over the symbolic degrees, and pledged to conserve the interests and dignity of that system of Masonic Government. The name assumed by the New Grand Lodge is "The United Grand Lodge of Colon and the Island of Cuba," and we heartily recommend the full recognition of this new sister sovereignty to be indicated by the adoption of this report.

OLIVER S. BEERS,
Chairman.

Brother Oliver S. Beers, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made report, and the report was received and ordered to be printed with the Proceedings.

Brother James S. Dickinson, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 5, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in :

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 5.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 5, beg leave to make the following report. They have examined with much care the Returns submitted to them, and find the following

CORRECT :

Aberfoil	No. 181	Valley	No. 203
Clintonville	" 183	Manning Spring	" 204
Delta	" 189	Pettusville	" 207
Tombigbee	" 190	Alexandria	" 208
Brush Creek	" 191	Marshall	" 209
Chattahoochee	" 192	Spring Hill	" 217
Hopewell	" 193	Sam Dixon	" 218
Hillabee	" 197	Lineville	" 219
Sylacauga	" 200		

INCORRECT:

LANDMARK No. 187.—For 2 years. In the Returns for 1879 William L. Williamson is reported as Suspended N. P. D., and yet his name is put among the regular members; while in the Return for 1880 he is reported as having been reinstated, and his name is not put in the list of members. Table of Dues in the last Return is not filled out.

KILIGEE No. 199.—Secretary has added a column for putting the amount of dues to each name, which is not required by the blank. Seal illegible.

YORK No. 211.—Two deaths and no dates.

BUILDERS No. 215.—Seal illegible, date A. L. not filled out.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

JAMES S. DICKINSON,
THOMAS P. WHITBY,
JOSEPH A. MOORE,
GEORGE PEACOCK.
Committee.

Brother Thomas H. Bailey, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 8, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 8.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 8, make the following report. They have examined with much care the Returns submitted to them, and find the following

CORRECT:

Charity	No. 331	Rock Mills	No. 353
Nanafalia	" 335	Barbour	" 358
Georgiana Davis	" 338	Scottsboro, 2 years	" 359
Clear Creek, 2 years	" 340	Pleasant Site	" 364
Ragan	" 341	Houston, 2 years	" 365
Echo	" 345	Cotaco	" 366
Bienville	" 348	Chandler	" 367
Ozark	" 349	Cross Plains	" 368
Sipsey, 2 years	" 350	Athelstan	" 369
Wilson Williams	" 351		

INCORRECT:

BLUE EYE No. 332.—No dates to Entering, Passing, and Raising.

OLIVER No. 334.—No number, or name, or date on the back, or amount of dues. One M. G. not noticed in the table of "Dues."

JOHNSON No. 337.—Initials used to several names.

PIKEVILLE No. 344.—No date on back of Returns. Heading erroneous in that it commences in 1880 when it should be 1879.

HURTVILLE No. 346.—Number of M. G. not set down in the table of Dues. Date A. D. and A. L. not filled out.

HEATON No. 354.—None of the blanks at the bottom of the report are filled out, and not signed by either Master or Secretary.

RUTLEDGE No. 357.—Shows 25 members and dues paid for only 18, and only 2 M. G's., therefore due the Grand Lodge $2.50. Master's name signed in the wrong place, seal illegible.

Fraternally submitted,

THOMAS H. BAILEY,
Chairman.

Brother William S. Penick, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 6, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 6.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 6, beg leave to report that they have carefully examined the Returns placed in their hands, and find the following

CORRECT:

Sandy Ridge, 2 years	No. 223	Cropwell, 2 years	No. 247
Bexar	" 230	Camp Creek	" 251
Sepulga	" 233	North Port	" 252
Harpersville	" 235	Quitman	" 254
Tallassee	" 237	Ervin	" 257
Bowen	" 241	Talladega	" 261
Ramer	" 243	Highland	" 262

INCORRECT:

WESTERN STAR No. 222.—No representation appears on face of returns.

NEWTON No. 324.—In degrees conferred, under the head of Fellowcraft and Entered Apprentices, the word 'none' not written, as required.

LOUISVILLE No. 225.—Fails to name post-office and county.

SANTA FE No. 226.—Generally incorrect.

JAMES PENN No. 227.—Reports one reinstated and fails to note it in proper place. Reports one affiliated, but does not give the name.

DUCK SPRING No. 231. -For 2 years. The word *none* is not written under the head of Dimitted. Under head of Dues, number of members and ministers not given. No date to the Reports.

FAIRMOUNT No. 236.—Dues $1.00 short. One member reported dead, and no date of death.

COOSA No. 242.—No date.

DAWSON No. 244 -Under head of Dues, number of members and ministers omitted.

HARRISON No. 246.—Under head of Dues, number of members not stated.

LAWRENCE No. 248.—No representation. Under head of Dues, number of members and ministers not given.

AMAND No. 250.—Under head of Dues, the number of members and ministers not given

RANDOLPH No. 258. -Heading not filled out.

WALNUT GROVE No. 264. Does not give full name of a member.

MERIDIAN No. 265.—No representation marked on back of returns.

Fraternally submitted,

WM. S. PENICK, Chairman.
C. B. WHITFIELD,
EDWIN H. ROBINSON,
W. H. MAY.

Brother James Collier Foster, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 10, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 10.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 10, beg leave to report that they have examined the returns submitted to them, and find the following

CORRECT:

Hillsboro	No. 408	Broomtown	No. 420
Pond Town	" 409	Cullman Fraternal	" 421
Helena	" 410	Clanton	" 423
Amberson	" 412	George Wilson	" 424
Oak Level	" 415	Temple	" 425
Hilton, 2 years	" 419		

INCORRECT :

DORIC No. 406.—Seal upside down.

JEMISON No. 411.—Seal upside down.

HIGH SHOALS No. 413.—Dates not filled out.

SULPHUR SPRINGS No. 414.—In the list of Members, 13 names are given, 3 of them ministers. Under the head of Recapitulation, the number of members in good standing is 12. Under the head of Dues reported, 9 members at 50 cents—$4.50—and 3 ministers, making 12 members.

GEORGE SMITH No. 417.—No seal.

SHORTERVILLE No. 422.—In the list of Members 36 names are given, 2 of them ministers. Under the head of Recapitulation, the number of members in good standing is 36. Under the head of Dues reported, 33 members at 50 cents—$16.50—and 2 ministers, making but 35 members.

DANIEL PRATT No. 426.—Initials instead of full first name of one member.

COKETON No. 427.—Name of one affiliate left off the list.

Fraternally submitted,

J. COLLIER FOSTER,
Chairman.

REPRESENTATIVES RECEIVED.

The hour of 12 o'clock, M., having arrived, the following newly appointed representatives of other Grand Lodges near the Grand Lodge of Alabama, viz:

George P. Harrison Jr., for Prince Edward Island.

George F. Moore, for Canada.

Stephen H. Beasley, for British Columbia.

Henry Clay Armstrong, for Indian Territory—

Were presented to the M. W. Grand Master, and cordially received and welcomed as the representatives of the several Grand Lodges by which they was accredited.

The Grand Secretary regrets to say that Brother

Horatio C. Grayson, the representative of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island was not present.

ON CODIFICATION.

On motion of Brother Palmer J. Pillans, Brother Henry Clay Armstrong, P. G. M., was added to the Committee on Codification.

Brother Palmer J. Pillans offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

PUBLISHING THE CODE.

Resolved, That the Committee on Codification be authorized, in conjunction with the R. W Grand Secretary, to publish a complete Code, containing the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, the Act of Incorporation, and the edicts and decisions of the Grand Lodge in force at the date of publication, as early as practicable; and that in binding the same they require a sufficient number of blank pages to be inserted therewith.

Brother John De Loach, from the Committee on Dispensations No. 1, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON DISPENSATIONS NO. 1.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

The Committee on Dispensations No. 1 respectfully report that Belgreen Lodge No. 428, a lodge working under a Dispensation from this Grand Lodge, and a letter from the Secretary of said lodge asking that their Dispensation be continued one year longer. Your Committee having had the same under consideration, recommend that their Dispensation be renewed and continued for one year

The By-Laws of Milo Abercrombie Lodge No. 429, working under a Dispensation from this Grand Lodge, with a request that their Dispensation be continued. The Committee recommend that the Dispensation of said lodge be renewed and continued for one year.

The Dispensation and minutes of Coketon Lodge No. 427, and a request that their Dispensation be continued. Your Committee have ex-

amined the minutes of said Lodge and find them neatly kept and correct, and at their request, we recommend that their Dispensation be renewed and continued for one year longer.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

JOHN DE LOACH,
Chairman.

And then, after prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until this evening at 7 o'clock.

IN GRAND LODGE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, December 8, 1880.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 7 o'clock, the M. W. Grand Master, Henry Clay Tompkins, presiding; the other Grand Officers at their several stations.

Prayer by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The minutes were read and approved.

Brother Ralph T. Armstrong, from the Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 9, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON CHARTERED LODGES NO. 9.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges No. 9, having examined the Returns submitted to them, beg to report that they find the following

CORRECT:

Bell's Landing	No. 373	Vernon, 2 years	No. 389
Gainesville	" 375	Weathers, 2 years	" 390
Santa Creek	" 376	North Border	" 391
Weogufka	" 378	Hickory Flat	" 392
Robert E. Lee, 2 years	" 379	Opelika	" 395
Chatchee, 2 years	" 380	Falkville	" 396
E. H. Cook	" 381	Hartselle	" 398
Ben Pope, 2 years	" 383	Haw Ridge	" 399
Birmingham Fraternal	" 384	Hanceville	" 400
Munford	" 385	Green Hill	" 402
Trinity	" 386	Childersburg	" 403
Newburgh	" 388	Hoboken	" 404

INCORRECT:

RUSSELLVILLE No. 371.—None of the blanks on the back of Return

filled up. Abbreviations and initials used throughout the Return; number of members paying dues not stated, not signed by the W. M.

LAKE CITY No 377.—Number on the back—8. Names of officers of last year put down instead of those elected at the last election.

WATERLOO No. 382.—Table of dues not filled out, nor year A. L.

VALLEY HEAD No. 394.—Two M. G's. put down in the table of Dues, but only 1 designated in the list of members.

Fraternally submitted,

R. T. ARMSTRONG,
Chairman.

Brother William S. Ford, from the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON DOINGS OF GRAND OFFICERS.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

From the best information we have, we are delighted to report, that the trusts reposed by this Grand Lodge in its Grand Officers have been executed by them with fidelity, and that they are deserving of the thanks of this Grand Lodge for the energy and zeal manifested by them during the past year.

The official acts of all our Grand Officers are, in every respect, highly commendable.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

WILLIAM S. FORD,
HENRY E. HURST,
LOVICK H. GODWIN,
JAMES C. GORDON,
JAMES T. MORRIS,
Committee.

Brother Daniel Smith, from the Committee on Propositions and Grievances, made the two following reports, and the reports were received and concurred in:

REPORT ON PROPOSITIONS AND GRIEVANCES.

No. 2.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Alabama:

The Committee to whom was referred the recommendation of John

A. Sears, that the property "formerly belonging to Rockford Lodge No. 137, which forfeited its charter in the year 1873, be disposed of by sale," together with the petition of the members of Weogufka Lodge No. 378, asking this Grand Lodge to donate to their lodge the proceeds arising from the sale of said property, to enable them to complete their new lodge hall, beg leave to report that they have carefully considered the same, and that it appears to the satisfaction of your committee that a majority of said petitioners formerly were members of said Rockford Lodge. Your Committee therefore recommend the property referred to be sold and the prayer of Weogufka Lodge be granted.

Fraternally submitted,

DANIEL SMITH,
Chairman.

REPORT ON PROPOSITIONS AND GRIEVANCES.

No 3.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Propositions and Grievances, to whom was referred the complaint of Harpersville Lodge No. 235, against Shelby Lodge No. 140, for having trespassed on their jurisdiction by receiving petitions of, and conferring degrees on "individuals" residing in the jurisdiction of Harpersville Lodge, beg leave to report that we have carefully considered the subject and find that Shelby Lodge is located at Columbiana, on the Selma, Rome and Dalton Railroad, the county site of Shelby county, about 18 miles from Harpersville, where Harpersville Lodge is located, which town of Harpersville is about 9 miles from the railroad; that Shelby Lodge, through their representative, admits having received petitions of, and conferred degrees upon, several candidates living about 12 miles from Shelby Lodge and 8 miles from Harpersville Lodge, but that this was done inadvertently and without any intention on their part to do injustice to Harpersville Lodge, and that his lodge will make any reasonable settlement with Harpersville Lodge.

Your Committee therefore recommend that the whole matter be referred to the Most Worshipful Grand Master for further investigation and settlement.

All which is most respectfully and fraternally submitted,

DANIEL SMITH,
Chairman.

Brother Joseph H. Johnson, P. G. M., from the Com-

mittee on Masonic Jurisprudence, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the decisions of the Grand Master, recorded in his address to the present communication of the Grand Lodge, and numbered from 1 to 27, inclusive, have had the same under consideration, and have given the several subjects passed upon as much consideration as the limited time, amidst the multiplicity of masonic duties, crowded into the past few days, would allow.

The Committee take pleasure in stating, and do now report to the Grand Lodge, that in their opinion the several decisions of the Grand Master are correct, and founded upon the true principles of Masonic Law.

The Committee recommend that the said decisions be referred to the Committee of the Grand Lodge charged with the duty of codifying the laws of this Grand Lodge, with instructions to include them in the new digest of laws, to be printed during the ensuing year.

Fraternally submitted,

J. H. JOHNSON,
P. J. PILLANS,
WILSON WILLIAMS,
Committee.

SILVER SERVICE PRESENTED.

And then, at 8½ o'clock, the Silver-Service Set, heretofore voted to P. G. M. Henry Clay Armstrong, was presented in fitting terms by the M. W. Grand Master. The speeches delivered on the occasion were appropriate and eloquent, but the Grand Secretary has not been able to procure copies of them up to the time of going to press.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

Brother Oliver S. Beers, Chairman of the Committee

on Finance, made report, and the report was received and concurred in.

(For Report see Appendix.)

CHROMO PRESENTED.

Brother Grand Junior Warden, on behalf of Messieurs Monte Pickens and Co., presented to the Grand Lodge a handsome Chromo of the last meeting between General Lee and Stonewall Jackson; and on motion of Brother Myles J. Greene, the thanks of the Grand Lodge were returned to the munificent donors.

Brother John Y. Johnston, from the Committee on By-Laws, made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON BY-LAWS.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your Committee on By-Laws beg leave to make the following report:

The by-laws of Milo Abercrombie Lodge No. 429, are approved except as follows:

Add the word *present* at the end of section 3, which provides for assessment for purposes therein mentioned.

Also that section 1 of Article III be amended so as to make the fee for the F. C. Degree, five dollars, and for the M. M. Degree, ten dollars, in accordance with the constitution.

Your Committee have also made a few verbal interlineations which were necessary, but do not alter the general tenor of the By-Laws.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

JOHN Y. JOHNSTON,
Chairman.

And then the Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing masonic year, Brothers James G. Cowan and Henry H. Brown, acting as tellers; and the election resulted as follows:

ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

HENRY CLAY TOMPKINS.....Montgomery.....Grand Master.
RUFUS WILLS COBB.....Montgomery.....Deputy Grand Master.
JOHN HOLLIS BANKHEAD.....Wetumpka.. .....Senior Grand Warden.
JOHN GIDEON HARRIS.....Livingston.... ...Junior Grand Warden.
WILLIAM HENRY DINGLEY....Montgomery.....Grand Treasurer.
DANIEL SAYRE.....Montgomery.....Grand Secretary.
JAMES DAVIDSON.....Montgomery.....Grand Tiler.

Brother Grand Secretary offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

PINE LEVEL LODGE NO. 202.

WHEREAS, Pine Level Lodge No. 202 has forfeited its charter, and this Grand Lodge is informed that its property and effects are going to waste, and that it owes debts that ought to be paid; therefore

Resolved, That a committee of two be appointed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, whose duty it shall be to take charge of and sell all the effects of said lodge; and that they pay the expenses of executing this trust, and also the debts of said lodge, the correctness of which may be duly and properly established by proof, and the balance of proceeds, if any, pay over to the Grand Secretary, and make report to the next communication of this Grand Lodge.

Brother Benjamin F. Pope offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

AS TO GADSDEN LODGE NO. 236.

Resolved, That upon the payment of one dollar each, the Grand Secretary be instructed to issue certificates to all members of Gadsden Lodge No. 236 in good standing at the time of the forfeiture of the charter of said lodge, who may apply therefor within the next thirty days.

Brother Isaac C. Hall offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

PROPERTY OF ROCKFORD LODGE NO. 137.

Resolved, That Brother John A. Sears be, and he is hereby, author-

ized to sell the property of Rockford Lodge No. 137, and turn over the proceeds to Weogufka Lodge No. 378, and make report thereof to the Grand Secretary.

Brother H. Clay Armstrong, P. G. M., made the following report, and the report was received and concurred in:

REPORT ON APPLICATION FOR AID.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your committee to which was referred that part of the M. W. Grand Master's address, calling the attention of the Grand Lodge to an application for aid from Gael Lodge No. 609, Glasgow, Scotland, and the Directors of the Masonic Hall Association at Washington, D. C.—Report, that it has never been the practice of this Grand Lodge to grant aid or dispense charity, the Subordinate Lodges being charged with that duty; hence no funds are available for the purposes asked, and your committee, in view of the present financial embarrassment of many of the Subordinate Lodges in this jurisdiction, deem an appeal to them at this time impracticable, and the R. W. Grand Secretary will so notify the applicants.

H. CLAY ARMSTRONG, Chairman.

REPORT ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

Brother William S. Foster, Chairman of the Committee on Leave of Absence, made report, and the report was received and concurred in, and ordered to be filed.

INSTALLATION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

And the newly elected and appointed Grand Officers were then installed in Ample Form; P. G. M. David Clopton officiating for the installation of the Grand Master; and Brother Henry H. Brown acting as Grand Marshal.

The following were announced by the M. W. Grand Master as the appointed Grand Officers and Standing Committees of the Grand Lodge:

GRAND OFFICERS.

Rev. William Carey Bledsoe.....Grand Chaplain.
Henry Hart Brown.....Grand Marshal.
Isaac Cunningham Hall.....Grand Senior Deacon.
William Wallace McCollum.....Grand Junior Deacon.
Adam Reigart Baker.....Grand Steward.
John William Martin.....Grand Steward.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Oliver S. Beers.....Mobile.
James Collier Foster.....Sylvan.
Samuel C. Nabers.....Yorkville.
Harrison Purcell.....Columbia.
John W. Grayson.....New Hope.

SUSPENSIONS, EXPULSIONS, AND APPEALS.

William Y. Titcomb.....Monroeville.
John DeLoach.....Monroeville.
Elkanah Burson.....Snow Hill.
Emmett F. Crook.....Alexandria.
George R. Sullivan.....Madison Station.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

Joseph H. Johnson, M. D.....Talladega.
Wilson Williams.....Opelika.
Rufus W. Cobb.....Montgomery.
Palmer J. Pillans.....Mobile.
Isaiah A. Wilson.....Union Springs.

WORK.

Myles J. Greene, M. D.....Talladega.
James M. Brundidge.....Decatur.
James H. Joiner.....Talladega.
James A. Wood, M. D.....Pleasant Hill.
Robert J. Redden.....Moscow.

MINUTES READ.

There being no further business to be brought before the Grand Lodge at this Grand Communication, the minutes were read and approved.

CLOSED.

And then, after solemn prayer to the Throne of Grace by the R. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama and its Masonic Jurisdiction, was closed in Ample Form, and the M. W. Grand Master's Gavel fell at 10 o'clock and 17 minutes, P. M.

DANIEL SAYRE,
Grand Secretary.

APPENDIX.

GRAND SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT.

M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama,

In Account with DANIEL SAYRE,

Grand Secretary.

			CR.		
1879.					
December	1	By Dues received at this Grand Communication.....	.....$3,616 00		
	1	amount for Charters at $35 each.	70 00		
		George Wilson No. 424.			
		Temple No. 425.....			
		Amount of Contingent Fund. . .	900 00—		4,586 00
1880.		DISPENSATIONS.			
July	17	By Coketon No. 427.....$	35 00		
"	19	Belgreen No. 428.....	35 00		
September	20	Milo Abercrombie No. 429.....	35 00—$		105 00
1879.		LODGE BACK DUES.			
December	16	By North Port No. 252.....$	16 00		
1880.					
January	2	Cokerville No. 175.....	15 50		
"	13	Burleson No. 143.....	13 50		
"	29	Gilead No. 9.....	20 00		
February	3	Coffeeville No. 122.....	7 50		
"	10	Munford No. 385.....	9 00		
"	21	Danville No. 95.....	5 00		
March	18	Fraternity No. 145.....	16 00		
"	23	Heaton No. 354	11 00		
June	19	North Border No. 391.....	8 00		
July	31	Mount Eagle No. 185.....	24 00		
August	20	Perryville No. 117.....	7 50—$		153 00
		Amount carried forward.....			$4,844 00

		Amount brought forward		$4,844 00
1880.		INDIVIDUAL BACK DUES.		
January	17	By Dues from Duncan, Phillips, and Allen, of Carrolton No. 214	$ 3 00	
"	29	Dues of W. H. Washington, Lodge No, 374	1 00	
February	11	Dues of W. H. Evington, Ashland No. 179	2 00	
March	13	Dues of James N. Googer, Orion No. 177	2 00	
April	3	Dues of McCarthey & Files, Goliad No. 370	3 00	
"	24	Dues of Patillo, Rockford No. 137	1 50	
"	27	Dues of Chancellor, Sycamore No. 328	1 00	
May	22	Dues of Brittain, Vanzandt, Foust, Bledsoe, Whorton, Herring, Hipps, McAbee, Summit No. 343	8 00	
"	24	Dues of Ray, Sycamore, No. 328.	1 00	
"	29	Dues of NeSmith, Summit No. 343	1 00	
June	16	Dues of Pearson, Bridgeville No. 100	25 00	
July	12	Dues of Bonner, Denham, Britton, Oden, Mason, Winslett, and Britton of Isney No. 234	7 00	
"	16	Dues of George F. Moore, Rockford No. 137	1 50	
August	7	Dues of Kelly, Goliad No. 370	1 00	
"	7	Dues of Nixon of Summit No. 343	1 00	
September	20	Dues of Boyd, Lightfoot, Tuttle, Cloud, Cloud, Powell, Cliett, Hamilton, Thompson, Williams, Trimble, Chilton No. 139	11 00	
"	25	Dues of Oliver, Rockford No. 137	1 00	
October	7	Dues of Floyd, Chilton No. 139	6 00	
"	12	Dues of Pierson, Marion Fl. No. 34	1 00	
"	28	Dues of Wyrosdick, Dean No. 112	6 00	
November	20	Dues of Beverly, Bledsoe, of Chunnenuggee No. 121	2 00—	86 00
		SPECIAL.		
June	8	By sale of Lodge-Room at Pine Grove,		15 00
"	8	By Codes sold—23 on hand		21 00
		Amount carried forward		$4,966 00

Amount brought forward			$4,966 00
1879.	DR.		
December 15. To paid Grand Treasurer	$3,616 00		
Grand Treasurer	70 00		
Barrett & Brown	571 50		
Armstrong & Co	2 50		
William T. Walker	16 75		
Joel White	12 03		
Postage	81 00		
Gas	20 10		
Repairs on Hall	15 90		
Silver Service Set for G. M.	100 00		
Joseph M. Kennedy	25		
Jeff. Pope	75		
Coal	3 50		
Express	1 50		
Wharton & Son	2 50		
Water-works	3 75		
Negro labor about office	32 60		
Grand Treasurer	415 37	—	$4,966 00

MONTGOMERY, December 6, 1880.

DANIEL SAYRE,
Grand Secretary.

GRAND TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT.

WILLIAM H. DINGLEY, Grand Treasurer,

In account with the GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA.

1879		DR.			
December	3	Balance on hand		$ 161 35	
	15	Received from Grand Secretary		3,616 00	
		" " " "		70 00	
1880					
December	3	" " " "		415 37	4,262 72
1879		CR.			
December	4	Com. on Work, M. J. Greene	42	32 00	
		Com. on Appeals, W. Y. Titcomb.	43	35 00	
		Grand Chaplain, Bledsoe	44	22 50	
		Com. on Work, J. H. Joiner	45	45 00	
		Grand Master, Armstrong	46	63 25	
		Com. on Work, J. A. Wood	47	26 00	
		Grand Junior Warden, Bankhead.	48	50 00	
		Com. on Work, J. M. Brundidge.	49	65 00	
		Com on F. Corresponence, Beers.	50	200 00	
		Grand Steward, J. W. Martin	51	50 00	
		Grand Steward, A. R. Baker	52	153 50	
		Grand Tiler, Davidson	53	100 00	
		Rent, M. P. LeGrand	54	800 00	
		Grand Secretary	55	1,000 00	
		Contingent Fund, Grand Secretary.	56	900 00	
		Grand Treasurer	57	150 00	
1880					
		Grand Master, Tompkins	58	25 00	3,717 25
	6	Balance on hand			545 47
					$4,262 72

Montgomery, Ala., December 6, 1880.

WILLIAM H. DINGLEY,
Grand Treasurer.

REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF PERMANENT TRUST FUND.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF PERMANENT TRUST FUND

Of the M. W. GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA.

1879		DR.		
December 2	To balance		$143 27	
	Interest on $1,000, 4½ per ct. bonds		45 00	
	Interest on $5,100, 4 per ct. bonds.		204 00	—$392 27
1880		CR.		
October	By Ala. State Bond, Class A, No.6,930, for $500		348 24	
December 6	By balance		44 03	—$392 27

December 7, 1880.

HENRY C. TOMPKINS,
DANIEL SAYRE,
WILLIAM H. DINGLEY,
Trustees.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

The Committee on Finance have carefully examined the reports and vouchers representing your fiscal transactions for the past year, as submitted to them, and report them correct and satisfactory.

The following statement of receipts and expenditures presents a condensed exhibit of the transactions alluded to, and your committee have also prepared, and submit annexed, an approximate estimate of general revenue and expenses for the current masonic year, adding also a statement of receipts, investments, and general condition of the Grand Lodge "Permanent Trust Fund:"

RECEIPTS, 1879-80

To cash bal. in Treasury Dec. 1, 1879, as per report.		$ 161 35
Cash from annual Lodge dues to Dec. 1, 1880....	$3,616 00	
" " arrearages " " prior to Dec. 1, 1880	153 00	
" " " " " paid by individuals.	86 00	
Total of Dues.....	$3,855 00	
Less 10 per cent. thereof due to "P. T. Fund"..	385 50	
Total of Dues due common fund.....		3,469 50
Cash for proportion of Dues belonging to P. T. Fund as above.....	385 50	
Cash from Charters, Dispensations, $175 00, and sales of Codes and property, $36 00, due P. T. Fund.....	211 00	
Total receipts for Trust Fund.....		596 50
Aggregate receipts.....		$4,227 35

DISBURSEMENTS.

By cash paid on appropriations of 1879, for general Grand Lodge expenses, including Salaries, Printing of Reports, Rent, &c.....	$3,681 88
Balance in hands of Grand Treasurer Dec. 1, 1880....	$ 545 47

This balance, it is apparent, is due to the Trustees of the P. T. Fund as a part of the $596 50 belonging to the earnings of that Trust for the year, and should be at once turned over to them for prompt investment, while the deficit, apparent, of $51 03, should be reserved for settlement

with the deficiency of last year, stated at $322 35, making a total due the Trust Fund to date of $673 38, for payment as soon as the Grand Lodge revenues will permit, with proper regard for other necessary expenditures. Your Committee regret this recurring deficiency of revenue, but as it results mainly, in their opinion, from the delays in payment of Dues by Subordinate Lodges, we propose no change in the allotment of revenue to the Trust Fund, believing that the evil will soon be corrected by the collection of arrearages due the Grand Lodge.

Just here we beg respectfully to suggest to the Grand Officers in charge thereof, the propriety of discriminating, in their Reports and Records, between the two funds, "Ordinary" and "Trust," into which the Grand Lodge revenues are by law divided, treating them as separate items of receipts, and thus avoid any possible complications of accounts hereafter.

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS FOR 1880-81.

By cash balance in Treasury 1st Dec., 1880, $545 47, but as this is due to the Trustees, as before explained, it is not applicable to future expenses, and is not extended.....		
Estimated current receipts for Dues of 1880 (say of $4,400 due).....		$4,000 00
Estimated receipts from Back Dues.....		600 00
" " " Charters, Dispensations, and other sources.....		200 00
Total.....		$4,800 00

(Of which $660 00 would accrue to the P. Trust Fund.)

Following this estimate of revenue, we beg to present for your approval and adoption the usual list of appropriations for Grand Lodge expenses for 1880-81, viz:

APPROPRIATIONS.

For salary of R. W. Daniel Sayre, Grand Secretary.	$1,000 00	
W. H. Dingley, Grand Treasurer.	150 00	
Jas. Davidson, Grand Tiler....	100 00	
Adam R. Baker, Senior Grand Steward.....	100 00	
Bill of incidental expenses.....	50 95	
Salary of J. W. Martin, Junior Grand Steward,.	50 00	
Chairman Com. on Foreign Correspondence....	200 00	
Expenses of Grand Chaplain and Chairman Committee on Suspensions, Expulsions and Appeals	50 00	
Expenses of Committee on Work.....	200 00	
Grand Master's contingent to defray travelling and other incidental expenses.....	200 00	
Rent of Grand Lodge Hall.....	800 00	
Amount carried forward		$2,900 95

Amount brought forward		$2,900 95
Contingent Fund of Grand Secretary, including Stationary, Printing of Annual Report, and all incidental expenses as heretofore	900 00	
Expense of publishing new Code, in lieu of appropriation of 1879 not used and now renewed for	400 00	1,300 00
Total appropriations		$4,200 95

PERMANENT TRUST FUND.

The report of the Trustees of your PERMANENT TRUST FUND, hereto annexed, and to which we beg reference, shows the collection of only $249 00 during the year, and the whole of it on interest account, which, added to the balance of $143 27 on hand December 1st, 1879, gives an available investment fund of $392 27 for 1880, of which $348 24 was used in the purchase of one $500 00 Alabama Bond, Class A, No. 6,930.

The balance due the Trust Fund by the Grand Lodge, now summing up $1,218 85, should be paid to the Trustees as promptly as the condition of the Treasury will admit of, and your committee see no reason why the $545 47, cash balance now in the Treasury, as heretofore stated, should not be transferred at once to this fund, in part liquidation of the debt above stated, and promptly invested for its benefit.

The fund is now represented by the following assets: $6,100 00 in U. S. 4 and 4½ per cent. Registered Bonds, and a $500 00 Alabama Bond, Class A—$6,600 00 in Bonds (and worth, market value, about $7,000 00); also, debt of Grand Lodge, $1,218 85, equal, at face value, to $7,818 85.

This fund is steadily increasing, and is quite satisfactorily managed and cared for by the Grand Trustees, its appointed custodians. We believe it will, at no distant day, fully realize the expectations of its most sanguine advocates, and fully compensate the Grand Lodge for all temporary inconveniences attending its accumulation and management.

All of which is most respectfully and fraternally submitted,

OLIVER S. BEERS, Chairman.
JOHN A. SEARS,
JAMES D. TRUSS,
THEODORE TIEDEMAN,
ADDISON F. WHITBY,
Committee.

N. B.—Your Committee had already closed their report before the following resolution, offered by Bro. Daniel Sayre, Grand Secretary, was referred to them, viz:

Resolved, That a sufficient amount be appropriated to print the early proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

In reference to which we beg to report adversely to the proposed appropriation at present. All available funds of the Grand Lodge are now needed to meet necessary appropriations for ordinary expenses, and the extra demand upon its resources for the outlay to print the new Code, ordered by resolutions of this and the preceding communication.

Admitting the propriety and utility of the proposed reprint of the early and nearly extinct reports, your committee are of opinion that the financial condition of the Grand Lodge does not now warrant the expenditure required, though it may appear comparatively small in amount.

Fraternally, OLIVER S. BEERS, Chairman,
For Committee.

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama:

Your "COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE" having maturely considered the various proceedings submitted to them, comprising reports from all American Grand Lodges except that of Vermont and Georgia—the failure to receive which is regretted—beg herewith and annexed to submit their annual report and review of the condition of the Craft as exemplified by the "work and ways of our sister Jurisdictions.

Appended to this report is a list of the Grand Proceedings treated of, arranged in alphabetical order, and we commence our review by calling attention to the usual table (supplied as formerly by Brother Josiah H. Drummond, C. C. F. C. of Maine,) containing very reliable and abundantly suggestive facts and figures in the department of general—

MASONIC STATISTICS.

GRAND LODGES.	Members.	Raised.	Admitted and Restored.	Withdrawn.	Expelled.	Suspended.	Suspended for non-payment of dues.	Died	Rejected.
Alabama	8,677	315	567	307	14	11	463	142	55
Arkansas †	8,293	429	425	380	16	31	274	119	..
Brit Columbia	295	12	12	23	1	0	14	4	7
Cahfornia . .	12,214	471	647	494	17	9	426	183	105
Canada ..	17,857	968	344	595	2	18	669	134	..
Colorado. .	1,641	88	120	75	2	0	104	19	67
Connecticut .	14,660	391	115	122	5	14	234	157	140
Dakota	404	37	24	11	0	0	8	2	..
Delaware . .	1,270	49	11	13	0	..	*17	16	1
Dist. Columbia	2,712	124	104	37	1	0	128	42	.
Florida.	2,151	82	129	110	7	..	*86	48	24
Georgia.	12,174	370	364	532	0	0	*605	171	...
Idaho....	225	60	33	27	1	2	2	3	56
Illinois ...	36,374	1,392	919	1,434	65	. .	1,447	428	577
Indiana	25,045	811	591	1 069	195	51	1,102	288	. . .
Indian Territory	337	28	10	22	1		*11	4	. .
Iowa	18,491	726	424	932	18	11	..	184	..
Kansas . ..	7,443	321	639	302	7	2	213	70	.
Kentucky	16,613	614	693	820	26		† 1,663	223	....

MASONIC STATISTICS—Continued.

GRAND LODGES.	Membership	Raised.	Admitted and Restored	Withdrawn.	Expelled.	Suspended	Suspended for non-payment of dues	Died.	Rejected.
Louisiana ...	5,187	142	134	168	4	9	258	104	
Maine	19,309	565	251	275	2	3	335	185	179
Manitoba	360	35	22	24	0	2	31	1	
Maryland	5,082	78	12	63	..	.	*53	32	.
Massachusetts.	25,505	862	1,463	547	1	0	865	342	324
Michigan§....	25,624	934	585	723	48		830	232	279
Minnesota.. ...	8,647	333	199	215	4	13	224	49	
Mississippi .	9,240	250	396	345	8	9	419	175	
Missouri . .	23,697	673	745	839	48	38	475	345	253
Montana .	705	43	40	21	1	0	10	8	19
Nebraska	3,257	136	245	99	10	..	*43	34	.
Nevada	1,476	53	91	84	4	0	64	21	16
New Brunswick	2,317	160	56	100	0	0	73	24	.
New Hampshire	7,731	238	310	99	2	0	76	90	69
New Jersey.	11,968	384	235	185	11	1	361	146	..
New Mexico	174	.	15	6	0		*10	3	7
New York.. .	73,113	2,086	1,632	1,071	52	11	5,051	865	558
North Carolina	11,482	163	161	169	17	79	411	108	50
Nova Scotia	3,400	251	80	150	0	6	162	28	40
Ohio	29,000	1,224	1,539	820	206	31	1,665	365	.
Oregon ...	2,580	129	111	116	1	34	65	29	67
Pennsylvania ..	35,879	947	352	398			1,486	450	
P. E. Island. .	548	33	12	24	0	0	12	3	
Quebec	2,753	138	37	153	0	0	*110	23	
Rhode Island	4,195	105	109	52	1		*101	41	40
South Carolina	6,165	.. .	.	199			395	114	10
Tennessee	16,531	339	748	780	28	33	481	270	. . .
Texas	17,177	604	1 109	1,088	68	0	*821	360	355
Utah	377	20	17	11	2	0	15	2	8
Vermont ..	7,724	193	91	144	6	5	191	81	66
Virginia	9,777	....	‡68	314	11	7	225	112	.
Washington.	953	56	57	47	5	3	13	14	14
West Virginia	3,386	157	111	99	2	19	128	45	36
Wisconsin. . ..	10,780	429	281	345	8	12	272	74	178
Wyoming .	339	30	26	16	1	0	13	1	15
Total	573,317	19,685	17,523	17,102	929	464	23,210	7113	3615

***Including suspensions for all causes. † Proceedings not received: same as last year. ‡ Re-instatements. § Same as last year.**

Grand Secretaries do not yet give full statistics.

In Colorado, the column of membership is not added: in Georgia, none of the columns are added: in Michigan, the statistics are given by

Districts and the columns are not added, and there is no Recapitulation, so we use last year's figures.

COMPARISON OF STATISTICS.

	1880. Gr. Lodges.	1880. Totals.	1879. Gr. Lodges.	1879. Totals.	1878. Gr. Lodges.	1878. Totals.
Members	54	573,317	54	582,556	54	592,443
Raised	52	19,685	53	21,788	51	23,861
Admissions, &c.	53	17,523	53	16,680	51	16,744
Dimissions	54	17,102	53	16,747	51	17,681
Expulsions	51	929	51	784	48	986
Suspensions	42	464	36	716	37	770
" npt. dues	54	23,210	52	22,054	48	21,051
Deaths	54	7,113	54	7,108	52	7,038
Rejections	30	3,615	28	3,838	29	4,374

*The aggregate suspensions for non-payment of Dues amounting to 66,315 in the three years, and showing a clear increase for each year, is quite a conspicuous feature in this table, and to our mind suggests the necessity for some remedy applicable to this continuing and growing evil. We are not sure but that there is some want of charity lurking behind this free use of suspension towards the non-contributors, and in some of the proceedings herein reviewed intimations to that effect are not wanting. In any view of it the situation is not at all pleasant; and if discreditable motives have intervened to increase the general loss of membership, under that depleting process, the demand for scrutiny and remedial effort is rendered still more imperative. We do not like the effect of these suspensions, injuring us as they do in numbers, three times more fatally than the so-called *grim monster*—DEATH!

But returning to our regular review, we commence according to prescribed alignment (alphabetic) of Jurisdictions, with—

ARKANSAS, 1879.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Arkansas (after two annual *hitches*, in getting away from her old October moorings,) has at length fixed upon the fourth Tuesday in November, in each year, as the period for her regular annual communications.

The proceedings before us report the doings of that Grand Body, commencing Tuesday, November 25th, A. D. 1879, and closing Thursday evening, 27th, a very short session considering the varied and important work performed, as attested by the minutes, and our Brethren must have labored both faithfully and skillfully to do so much, and do it so well, and so quickly. The business of the session it is true involved no questions or duties outside of routine jurisdictional work,

yet there are many and important matters of that description which claimed attention and received due consideration.

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances had matter enough before them to necessitate two elaborate and several minor reports; and we judge, from their reports, that the "Committee on Finance" and the Committee on "Masonic Law and Usage," had very little time for *recreation* during this communication.

The "Committee on Foreign Correspondence" made a special report, in which they express doubts as to the strict legitimacy of the Grand Lodge of NEW SOUTH WALES, and for that reason, as well as in deference to the remonstrances of the Grand Lodges of England and Scotland against it, they say "we cannot at this session recommend, as we hope to do at our next annual meeting, the full and fraternal recognition of the New Grand Lodge." Will this hope be realized? Will *legitimacy* be established?

A resolution, and other proceedings, relating to the Grand Orient of France were referred to this Committee and they responded, with approval of the Grand Lodge, as follows, viz:

As fraternal relations with the Grand Orient of France were years ago severed on account of her repeated and persistent violation of Grand Lodge sovereignty in the United States, we deem it only necessary to unite our protest with that of our sister Grand Lodges in this country against the high-handed and impious stroke of the Grand Orient of France at a sacred and fundamental landmark of the Craft. And especially as we see cropping out here and there a tendency toward a misguided and misnamed liberalism which threatens to invade even the "holy of holies" of Masonry, do we deem it important at this time to place the Grand Lodge of Arkansas upon record against any and everything in the shape of atheism infidelity and materialism; therefore,

Resolved, That the belief in God and the immortality of the soul is a cardinal doctrine of Masonry, and it is the sense of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas that the God of Masonry is the great Architect of the Universe, the Creator and Preserver of all things, the God of the Bible as well as the God of those who know nothing about its teachings; that the God of Masonry is not a god—a force—a materialistic cause, but the one true and living God—to whom we must all account; and that any one rejecting these great truths is unworthy of initiation into, or holding membership in a Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

GEORGE E. DODGE,
THOS. C. McRAE.

Quite an interesting and, somewhat, unusual episode varied the work of this communication. The Grand Lodge having assented to the request of Magnolia Lodge No. 60, conferred the Symbolic degrees upon Prof. Leo Baeir, o. St. Johns College, and Capt Arthur McArthur Jr., of U. S. army. Brother E. H. English conferring the Master's degree. Quick work, but will it *square* with the *plumb line* of safe precedent and masonic *caution?*

Grand Master George Thornburgh delivered an admirable address at the opening of the session, which, in its enumeration of duties performed, gives assurance alike of abundant labors and faithful performance thereof.

He had written during the year twelve hundred (1200) official letters and delivered thirty decisions on questions involving, in some instances, important jurisdictional *usages*, somewhat obscured by conflicting edicts of the Grand Lodge, thus becoming in a measure a digester as well as an enforcer of the law. Some of his decisions were very properly objected to by the "Committee on Masonic Law and Usage;" but all important ones were fully approved.

He reports St. John's College "in a *prosperous* condition." Thanks for that assurance, and we mark the fact as another triumph of masonic perseverance in the line of "Associated Benevolence" (*so-called*).

He announces, with expressions of deserved eulogy, the death of P. G. Senior Warden I P. McCowen. Maj. Gen'l McCowen had had an eventful career as a soldier, was honored as a citizen, and revered as a zealous and faithful Mason.

Four dispensations for new lodges were granted during the year. The last of the four was named *Marvel*, which, though not a classic masonic cognomen appears to have been *marvelously* proper as the *denoument* will attest. Of it the Grand Master says:

> Soon after this dispensation was issued, I received information that the W M appointed was a suspended Mason, and very immoral man, and that the members refused to meet with him. Upon satisfying myself as to the truth of the charges, I removed him, and appointed Brother J. T. Hull in his stead.
>
> There was great irregularity in the establishment of this Lodge, and Lebanon Lodge No. 97, which recommended it, deserves a reprimand. The officers of the new lodge never exemplified the work of their stations, and the petitioners did not present their receipts from their several lodges for dues. In fact, it seems that the recommending lodge did not care whether the petitioners were proper persons, or qualified to compose a lodge, or not.

Under the head of CLANDESTINE MASONRY the G. Master reports an invasion of his jurisdiction by a *so-called Lodge* bearing the name of *Crescent City No.* 635, located at Chicago, Illinois. This body, of *white* imposters, is pronounced by competent masonic authority in Illinois, "*an unmitigated fraud*," and we make a note of it for the benefit of the true and loyal everywhere.

We clip some very interesting items from Grand Master Thornburgh's address, presented under the head of

CONDITION OF MASONRY.

"Masonry in Arkansas is an extensive organization—large in num-

bers and strong in influence. Only forty-one years ago *four* lodges and a handful of delegates organized this Grand Lodge. Even when our beloved ENGLISH, who is with us now, first wielded the Grand Master's gavel, there were only thirty-five lodges on our rolls."

He has been permitted to watch the tender sprig which he so faithfully watered, grow and spread until now, like a majestic oak, it stretches its branches to three hundred and forty lodges, while ten thousand members rest under its shade. Wonderful progress!

"And the world wonders, as well it may," what it is in Masonry which preserves it, while everything else decays. Other institutions spring up and run well for a time, but are soon lost, even in name. "Splendid cities rise to cheer the desert," and then moulder until their very sites are lost; Empires rise to power and splendor, and soon live only in history; but Masonry lives through all time, in every form of government, through wars and in peace; grows fresher with age, and stronger in storms. Amid all the commotions of the world, the play of angry passions, and the carnage of armies, she has worn her lambskin, as she wears it this day, without spot or blemish. That must be pure which nothing corrupts; that must be strong which nothing can break. The most industrious in labor, the most learned in the professions, the most profound in science, the most honored in State, and the most devout in Church—differing in everything else—meet around a common altar in union and fellowship. They meddle with no matters of party in State or Church; they have no speculations or schemes for wealth or honors; yet they claim to have some common design of great moment. What does it mean? Churchmen, statesmen, philosophers, laborers! What talismanic charm draws you together? What lessons of wisdom bring you to teach, or come you to learn? Are you not tired of the noiseless tread and whispering voice, the secret sign and silent tongue, which for so many years have separated you from the world?" Nay, my brethren, your presence here to-night says you are not weary in well-doing. You have long known what the lamented Rev. Dr. Slater, of Memphis, found out by working side by side with the Masons of Memphis. He said: "My Masonic brethren, with *noiseless* steps, went the dread round of duty; aye, into the very throat of the devouring plague, and pressed the cup of Mercy to quivering lips, and softened the dying pillows."

You have imbibed the heaven-born teachings, the practice of which attracted so much attention, and led an eminent divine to write recently from Memphis as follows: "The praise of these societies fills the earth. Having co-operated with them through four epidemics, including the horrors of 1878, I am prepared to appreciate their splendid charities as no one can who has not been through the fiery ordeal shoulder to shoulder with them. I commend their noble deeds—the brotherly love that counts not life dear, that it may press the cooling draught to the parched lips of a brother, or soothe the anguish of his smitten family. Can I disparage men whose tears have mingled with my own, amid the horrors of 1878? My heart says a thousand times, NO. God bless them! The sufferer was my brother in Christ, their brother in the Lodge. I could but see how impotent was the Church; how strong the Lodge. And O, what unutterable horrors would Memphis have felt, beyond all human conception, or endurance, but for these societies."

We must not omit to mention the very appropriate address delivered before the Grand Lodge, on the occasion of the *visitation* of St. John's

College, by W. Grand Orator R. E. Salle. We would not, if we could, forget it, for in its perusal we are reminded of recent pleasant times and acquaintances in Arkansas.

The Orator's theme was borrowed from the tradition of ABRAHAM and the old GHEBER. The latter could not renounce his Sun worship of 100 years and accept the Patriarch's GOD, though but recently nursed into life, when perishing with hunger and cold, by Abraham's hospitality and devoted personal attentions. Angry at the fire-worshiper's contumacy, in refusing to conform to the religious rites of the household, the Patriarch cast him out, to encounter again the perils which had so recently endangered his life. But GOD chided Abraham for his impatience, that he could not endure for *the night* what his MAKER had "suffered" for a century; so the old Gheber was recalled, and thus the lesson of patience and of *charity*—charity to friend and foe alike, to the antipodes of race, of clime and of religion—was enforced. The address is interesting, and the argument well sustained.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE,

Reported upon by Bro. George E. Dodge, Chairman, gives Alabama—proceedings of 1878—acceptable notice. He *accepts* Bro. (now P. G. M.) Armstrong's ruling, of that year, ignoring the Chapter P. M's. DEGREE as a requisite qualification for the W. M's. position. Notices approvingly the re-election of Grand Master ARMSTRONG, and "the tried and true Secretary and Treasurer."

Bro. Dodge is a little facetious in some of his comments, cruelly so when he mentions "the failure of St. John's College," that elephant of my Ark-ansas report of 1877. "No more of that, Hal., an thou lovest me." Pray "go for" Bro. P. G. M. McGuire, it was his show, elephant and all, and "give it to him roundly."

We have said enough heretofore in appreciation of Bro. D's. reports, and now, in deference to his modesty, refrain from further comments. But, before we go, a word of caution! Ain't you afraid of Bro. Vaux? Again, *peace reigns in* CUBA, and the COLON *thorn* having been extracted, what *now*, Bro. Dodge, of your *semi's* and *anti's* of that *ilk*, syntactical?

GRAND OFFICERS.

M· W. Bro. George Thornburgh (re-elected)..... Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. L. E. Barber (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Whole number of Lodges.....340

BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1879.

We have, in one volume, the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of British Columbia, at its two annual communications, one held 16th

February A. D. 1878—the 7th annual—under M. W. Frederick Williams. Grand Master, the other—the 8th annual—under presidency of M. W. Eli Harrison, Grand Master, commencing 21st June A. D. 1879, both convened in the city of Victoria. The volume also contains proceedings of two *emergency* communications, held in the same city, severally, on the 22d April and 28th of October 1878, the first to "lay the corner stone" of their new Masonic Hall, and the last to dedicate the same, then completed.

We confess to a general impression, on reading these minutes, very favorable to the virtues and skill of these masonic workers of British Columbia. The addresses of the Grand Officers, the work of the Lodge, and the tone of earnestness and self-sacrifice for the good of masonry, pervading the record, all tend to elicit respect and commendation.

Par example—think of it, ye who profess to love masonry and yet of your surplus, provide not for the home so essential to the comfort and respectability of the Grand, as well as Subordinate Lodge? This new Grand Lodge, comprising only six Subordinate Lodges, numbering less than three hundred active members, with an annual income of about six nundred dollars, undertook the hazardous enterprise of building a GRAND MASONIC TEMPLE. Better still, the building was completed within seven months from the laying of the corner stone, at a cost of $12,000 for the building, $3,740 for furnishing and embellishments; total, $15,740, and all costs *paid* by funds furnished by members of the fraternity of that jurisdiction. A fine Hall, complete in all its appliances and equipments, was thus secured by the energy and devotion of these few but resolute workers. Admirable! Thanks, Brethren of British Columbia, for an example of work and wisdom worthy of all praise and emulation!

The ceremonies at the beginning and completion dedication, of the Temple, were conducted in AMPLE Form, according to the imposing masonic ritual provided for such ceremonials. Applicable to the dedication, in addition to the address of the M. W. Grand Master, Harrison, a sermon was preached before the Grand Lodge by the Rev. H. H. Mogg, Grand Chaplain, from the text, "Let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth," and we make a note of it, because the resorting to a church for a sermon to crown such a ceremony is an unusual circumstance, and is probably significant of the custom in that jurisdiction.

As in all the Grand Bodies of British North America, this Grand Lodge includes in its organization the BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES, a permanent advisory and executive body, and we cannot but think that its influence is most salutary in systematising and aiding the work of the Grand Lodge, and promoting masonic unity and zeal generally in

its jurisdiction. We like it well, and the more we see of its workings the more enamored we become of its conservative and useful influences.

The Grand Lodge has a "Widow's and Orphan's Fund" of over $3,600 (as we make it, though the statement, to a stranger, is somewhat obscure.)

The proceedings of 1878 announce the death, in England, of R. W. P. G. M. Robert Burnaby, a pioneer in masonry of that Province, and a worthy exemplar of its ritual and principles; those of 1879 make mention of the death of R. W. D. G. Master Vinter, an old and active member of the Fraternity.

The Grand Master had advanced $25 00 out of the "benevolent fund" to an indigent mason of New Orleans, Bro. William Moss (1879), who had received letters announcing the death of his father, mother, brother and sister, and was anxious to return home via San Francisco, where his friends would complete the assistance needed to take him to New Orleans. The advance was approved, and the irregularity of the draft, on a fund set apart for other purposes, *healed*.

The Grand Master thus contrasts the conduct of the Scotch and English Grand Lodges in the matter of etiquette to Lodges recently subordinate to them, viz:

> Although this Grand Lodge is in communication with almost every Grand Lodge in the world, yet, for the past seven years we have had no communication from the Grand Lodge of Scotland. For some time before this Grand Lodge was formed the Provincial Grand Lodge of Scotland, which then existed in this Province, and the Lodges under her charge, received no communication or attention of any kind from Scotland. I cannot avoid noticing the contrast between the Grand Lodge of England and the Grand Lodge of Scotland in this respect. The Grand Lodge of England, after due consideration, acknowledged this Grand Lodge, and by request returned to the Lodges formerly under her jurisdiction their Charters, which now adorn the walls of some of our Lodge rooms. She also appointed a Grand Representative near this Grand Lodge. Similar courtesies have been long and anxiously looked for by the Lodges in this Province which formerly composed the Provincial Grand Lodge of Scotland, but they have been disappointed.
>
> After this long silence I recently received a circular from the Grand Lodge of Scotland requesting this Grand Lodge not to recognize certain Brethren who have formed a Grand Lodge in New South Wales. I have read the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of New South Wales, and the different letters relating to this matter, and, subject to the decision of Grand Lodge, my own impression is that the Craft in New South Wales would do much better if they had control of their own affairs. The correspondence on this subject will be placed before you for your consideration.

There must be some grave fault "at the bottom of it," or we would not hear of so many controversies arising between the Grand Lodge of

Scotland and other jurisdictions. What is it? Is she neglectful and imperiously exacting by turns?

GRAND OFFICERS, 1879.

M. W. Bro. Eli Harrison (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Edgar Crow Baker.....Grand Secretary.

CALIFORNIA, 1879.

The *thirtieth* annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of California convened at San Francisco on Tuesday, the 14th day of October A. D. 1879, M. W. John Mills Brown in the East, all Grand Officers and the representatives of 179 constituent lodges present.

The work of the Lodge, though as usual amply employing the time and talent of this industrious and expert body of masons, seems to have glided smoothly and rapidly along, undisturbed by strife, or the interposition of any unusual or perplexing questions of law or ethics.

The Grand Master's annual address is—well, we won't say it in *that* way—for it would be strong praise presented in oft repeated phrase, and besides, we might disclose the secret of our inner life, in its devotion to the style, matter, and method of M. W. Bro. Brown's addresses. The truth is, we always enjoy them in a two-fold manner, so to speak, for we eagerly search for them, and when found, their perusal imparts a zest of pleasure followed by the happy assurance of newly acquired *wisdom.* while their *strength* and *beauty* cannot be denied.

We have often feared that our notices of California's doings might be considered too lengthy, as trenching upon the space, in these reports, properly allotted to each jurisdiction ; if any think so, please remember that we are weak to resist the allurements of beauty, presented either in *dresses* or *addresses*, and forgive the fault, if fault it be.

Grand Master Brown, after some excellent general remarks on masonic duties, which we shall quote hereafter, alludes in detail to the several topics claiming attention at this communication, gives an account of his stewardship, and announces his farewell to the honors and responsibilities of the Grand East.

The absence of the Grand Master from the jurisdiction, attending to public duties, and his subsequent serious illness, had prevented active duty for several months.

The Grand Lodge had, at its last communication, passed a resolution ordering "that a Lodge should only be required to pay the expenses of an Inspector's visit when made at *its* request." This seems to have sadly deranged their excellent system of Lodge inspection, for the careless Lodges would not pay the Inspector, and he could not afford to

visit and inspect them at his own expense ; so to remedy the evil, the exceptional resolution was repealed, as suggested by the Grand Master.

He had issued "dispensations for the establishment of five new Lodges."

Recommends a digest of Masonic Law, for the jurisdiction, as a matter of "necessity and utility." Does not approve of "Masonic Mutual Relief Associations," *with Grand Lodge endorsement*; thinks each member of the fraternity should decide for himself as to its utility, etc.

He renewedly objects to "Lodge incorporation" (legislative). Rebukes as an irregularity the mingling of Lodge and Templar ceremonials at masonic funerals, and thinks the Lodge ceremony should be completed, and the Templar service follow, if it is desirable to use both. So think we, and such is our custom on all similar occasions, though they are of very rare occurrence hereabouts.

He again recommends that the Committee on FINANCE "be made a Standing Committee, and when so constituted, it shall be required to meet at the office of the Grand Secretary on the Saturday preceding the annual communication of the Grand Lodge (Tuesday being the day appointed for that), and examine the books, etc., of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary." This is an excellent suggestion, and worthy of consideration in other jurisdictions, "more especially in this of ours."

We quote, approvingly, several of his decisions, viz :

Question.—Is it right or legitimate for the Lodge to work on the Sabbath, or would the Grand Lodge, or you, as Grand Master, censure a Lodge for so doing?

Answer.—Except for funeral ceremonies the urgency will seldom present itself for a Lodge to convene on the Sabbath, and the fact that there is much work to perform in the way of conferring degrees is no good reason for a departure from the practice in this jurisdiction. It is desirable to afford the enemies of Masonry no vulnerable point for an attack, and consequently, avoidance of labor on Sunday is to be observed. This decision is introduced because it was received most discourteously, as reported ; therefore your pronounced opinion is earnestly solicited for it.

Question.—Has the Master of a Lodge power to authorize a Past Master to open the Lodge and perform work, the Master and Wardens being absent?

Answer.—No ; the Master may request a Past Master to confer a degree, but either himself or one of the Wardens must be present to open the Lodge.

Question.—How can a deceased member be buried with masonic honors in the absence of the Master and Wardens?

Answer.—By constituting an emergent Lodge, or any brother might read the funeral service, without the usual requirement of opening a Lodge.

Question.—In what manner shall evidence be taken *after* trial, in a case of appeal?

Answer.—For taking testimony after a trial has been completed, for the purpose of an appeal, there is no prescribed direction further than that found in the seventeenth General Regulation, which simply states that whatever an appellant has to offer shall be in writing and done in a specified time. As to the manner, he may suit himself, and the Committee on Grievances will judge of its sufficiency.

Question.—Must not an objection by a member to a visiting brother sitting in a Lodge come directly from the party raising the objection to the Master of the Lodge, and not by hearsay?

Answer.—The Master alone decides as to the validity of the objection. Under ordinary circumstances no Master should deprive a brother of the right of visitation upon merely a hearsay objection. The whole matter is left to the judgment of the Master.

Question.—Has a member of a Lodge the right to object to a brother visiting the Lodge, by filing such objection with the Master, without giving his reason therefor, although the one to whom the objection is made is a member in good standing of another Lodge in the same place? Has the brother to whom the objection is made no redress? Is he not entitled to know why such objection is made, or must he be barred from visiting such Lodge, so long as the objection stands, no matter how unjust, simply to gratify some petty spite or personal grievance?

Answer.—A member can object to a brother visiting a Lodge, and give no reasons for the objection, but the Master to whom the objection is made alone determines its validity. The Master has to preserve the peace and harmony of his Lodge, and therefore it is his will that admits or rejects. One ought to believe that no Master would refuse a brother the privilege of visiting upon an objection made by a member who declines to give reasons therefor. In support of this assertion, I refer to a sub-division of an ancient landmark, from which I quote: "but when admission is refused to a mason in good standing, who knocks at the door of a Lodge as a visitor, it is to be expected that some good and sufficient reason shall be furnished for this violation of what is, in general, a masonic right founded on the Landmarks of the Order."

He compliments, in terms of well merited praise, an excellent GRAND SECRETARY, Bro. Alexander G. Abell, thus:

Once more it is an agreeable duty to acknowledge the valuable assistance which has always been afforded me by the Grand Secretary. His reputation at home and abroad as a masonic scholar and jurist is too well established to be influenced by any words of mine; but his excellence as counsellor and administrator, derived from extensive experience, logical reasoning, sound judgment, and integrity of purpose, is only thoroughly understood and estimated by my predecessors and myself. The harmony of our long official intercourse has not been marred in a single instance, and my labors and efforts have been ably and courteously seconded by him. I pay this just tribute to an intimacy which, born in respect, soon ripened into a friendship—a valued friendship—which I trust and believe will be perpetuated in our future unofficial relations.

And now for the promised quotation from Grand Master Browne's general remarks. Here it is, viz:

Our aims and objects embrace no problems to be solved, no hidden intentions to be speculated on, but simply and purely to do our duty to our fellows, and for the general well-being of the society to which we belong.

There is an ideal and a practical masonry. Much in its passive aspect never reaches above the ideal, yet much of the apparent ideal is susceptible of a practical shape, and, at least to a certain extent, is within the means of attainment. Masonry is in accord with the teaching of common sense for its principle is based upon that high morality which is the common law of the soul, in the recognition of man as a moral, rational being. Its severe truths, when set forth by men of sense and reflection, dispel by their own force the delusions of prejudice, obstinacy, and ignorance. In its support and enforcement of moral teaching it harmonizes with religion without avowal of creed or party, and, in the encouragement of virtue and honesty and in the denunciation of hypocrisy, it enlarges the simpler and purer enjoyments of life. But its dearest characteristics are a warm, human sympathy as opposed to intolerance and selfishness, and a tenderness which rises above every other quality. In its vitality and durability it is capable of a progress to which no limit can be placed.

In previous messages, when treating of the condition of the fraternity in this jurisdiction, I have introduced the causes which retard the growth, interrupt the harmony, and paralyze the action of certain Lodges; and in indicating the disease I have endeavored to afford the remedy. I do not propose to reiterate these facts and faults, which are clearly known and too plainly exhibited, and which, unless removed, will prevent the attainment of soundness and efficiency, the expected consequence of masonic organization. In my administration it has been aimed to bring your attention to practical masonry—every-day, actual Masonry—that which is feasible—rather than to please your senses in reciting the beauties and grandeur of theoretical masonry; for experience has determined that there is a great interval between written theory and real practice, and that much of the possible in theory is impossible in practice. Let me ask this question. Of what use is masonry unless it be made practical? Why expend time, labor, and money in perpetuating the impracticable? Practical masonry is the application of its knowledge to the experiences of life, to our surroundings, to our social, business, and civic relations. The term brotherhood is meaningless, unless associated with charity, and charity is but half developed when restricted to the humane duty of alms-giving. Masonic charity in its broad, unselfish sense is to do unto others as we would that others should do unto us. It is the charity that seeks for truth, honesty, and respect for the rights of others, that fosters knowledge, freedom, and toleration, and searches and strives after the good. It is the absence of this charity that is the chief cause of personal difficulties, arising from special and local agencies, by wrangling discussion, passionate accusation, petty selfishness, and intolerant opinion, all producing a bitterness which sooner or later affects the fraternal relations within the Lodge, and, in the sapping and mining of its harmony impairs, if not destroys, its effectiveness and usefulness. This is not imagined or unrealized, but is too frequently an actual, experienced condition, a great and grievous fault. When brothers are burdened with defects of their own, they should exercise charity toward the failings of others; they should not distress the mind when they themselves

stand in need of many things, they should not forget the law of human interdependence, and should not pass a severeness of judgment when regarding another's failings through a medium discolored and distorted. Cold-heartedness and self-regarding ought to be supplanted by kindness and self-repression, and, in the practice of self-command, passion, pride, and self-love, give way to a chivalrous courtesy which will elevate both the giver and the receiver. Brothers ought to remember that "a word spoken and a stone thrown, never return;" that they cannot be masonicalfy just, if they are not kind hearted; and, that if they will entertain faith and experience confidence, have sympathy, and be charitably considerate, with a desire to help one another, their own characters for prudence and conduct and integrity will be enlarged and extended.

ORATION.

The minutes present us with a very thoughtful and instructive address, delivered by Bro. Alonzo Sawyer, Grand Orator, before the Grand Lodge, on Wednesday, 15th October.

He "sketched the supposed origin and the progress, vicissitudes and present condition of masonry, and made some reference to its principles, to its relations to other organizations and to the interests of humanity." But in trying to cover too much *ground*, made his speech faulty, in that it was necessarily *superficial*. As to the matter of ORIGIN alone, he had a depth to sound quite beyond the reach of ordinary *plummets*, and a theme requiring more time, even to enunciate the prevalent theories thereanent, than such an address would permit or his audience tolerate.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Bro. William H. Hill is still "master of the situation" in this department of Grand Lodge work, and we have another of his characteristic and useful reviews. He condenses in some 90 pages of his report, fair, and in many instances, full reviews of the doings of over 50 Grand Lodges, and gives besides some useful general statistics, as well as a resume of foreign news.

Alabama Report for 1878—58th annual—receives due consideration.

He says of Grand Master ARMSTRONG's address, of that year, that it "is well written, of very reasonable length, and full of good advice and sound masonic doctrine." He approves most of his decisions, and quotes several of them, but seems to hesitate at the requisite SEVEN to hold a Lodge. It is our law custom, Bro. Hill, and the decision merely interpreted the law of Alabama, having no reference to old usages.

He notes the "plain advice as to the prevalence of drunkenness and profanity," given in the report of Bro. Titcomb.

He is kindly considerate of the faults of him who conducts the COR-

RESPONDENCE for Alabama. Thanks, and thanks, also, to you and Bro. Bromley, too, for the invitation to the "clam-bake." But alas, and alack a day! How shall we get there? We can *write up* an *invitation*, but how can we break away from these moorings, when tied so fast to the home stake by the unyielding cord of impecuniosity? Who will deliver us from this terrible restraint? "Oh! that I had the wings of a dove, to fly away and be at" the BAKE!

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. William Wilson Taylor.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Alex. Gordon Abell (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Whole number of Lodges.....211

CANADA, 1879.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Canada held its twenty-fourth grand annual communication in the city of KINGSTON, commencing on Wednesday, September 10th, A. D. 1879, with M. W. Grand Master W. H. Weller "on the Throne," and a full attendance of Grand Officers, Grand Representatives, and Grand Lodge constituents—221 Lodges represented, but alas too many of them, say 105, "by proxy!" The proxy epidemic is on the increase.

Preceding the annual, viz on the 1st of July, 1879, "an especial communication" was held at the town of Owen Sound, to lay the corner stone of the county high school in that place is reported. Such work is always well done in Canada, as in this instance; for that Grand Lodge has every year more or less of it to do, and having long ago "tried her 'prentice hand," she has now become an expert "master workman."

Grand Master Weller and the Grand Lodge were welcomed to KINGSTON by Brother R. T. Walkern, representing the brethren of that vicinity in a very appropriate address, a portion of which we extract, as it is historical and laudatory both, and in the latter respect, well deserved, viz:

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada:

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR—Twelve years have passed away since the Grand Lodge of Canada held its annual meeting in the City of Kingston, years marked by important events, by political storms, by unforeseen and unexpected changes, by wars, social revolutions, and the other events which go to make up the history of nations.

But though men have come and gone, though nations have risen and fallen, yet the current of Masonry has flowed steadily onward, never ceasing, ever increasing, until the rivulet of 1867 has become the river of 1879. Twelve years ago, during the Grand Mastership of our late Most Worshipful brother, William Mercer Wilson, there were in Onta-

rio 173 Masonic Lodges, to-day the number has increased to 369, in addition to eight Lodges which are working under dispensation. This marvellous progress is partly due, no doubt, to the intrinsic excellence of the principles of our Order, which are becoming more widely known and appreciated from day to day.

An institution which alleviates distress and gives comfort to the sorrowing, and bread to the hungry is entitled to, and will always command, the respect and support of the good and the virtuous. These are some of the objects which our Ancient Order has in view.

But much of our progress must also be attributed to the excellent management and supervision of the Grand Lodge and its officials. It has been our good fortune to have for our presiding officers men who have been thoroughly imbued with the spirit of Freemasonry, and who have done their utmost to build up our institutions, by earnestly trying to promote the great objects which we seek to attain.

After a suitable response to this address, by the Grand Master, the Grand Lodge "received and saluted, with GRAND HONORS R. W. Bro. John H. Isaacson, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Quebec."

The annual address of M. W. Grand Master Weller is a brief but clear exposition of the year's doings, neither too short nor too long. "Here we rest" a moment to "make an observation" on organization, viz:

The work of this Grand Lodge, during recess, is admirably distributed, portioned out among the District Deputy Grand Masters, who report in full the condition of their several districts, and the "BOARDS OF GENERAL PURPOSES," and that of "GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS," the first supervising the details of finance and general administration, the latter overseeing the Craft and reporting "on the condition of masonry," (including, also, Jurisprudence and "Foreign Relations," all of which, being efficiently and intelligently done, as is usual in Canada, relieves the Grand Master of much of the care usually incident to that position. He is thus, none the less, the responsible HEAD of the Fraternity and the honored representative of the Grand Lodge; but is not as in some jurisdictions the drudge of both Grand and Subordinate Lodges. "So mote it be" everywhere.

The Grand Master addresses his Lodge as "the rulers in the Craft," which is alike *unique* and appropriate.

Had issued eleven dispensations for new lodges. Had held seven special communications during the year, five devoted to the ceremony of consecration, (of new Masonic Halls) and two to aid in "laying the corner stone" of new public buildings.

Had exchanged representatives with the Grand Lodges of Idaho and Arkansas; filled representative vacancies, caused by death, in Indiana and Mississippi, and appointed a representative to Michigan in the "place of Robert H. Morrison," whose commission was revoked.

He announces with regret the death of M. W. Harvey G. Hazlerigg, their former representative near the Grand Lodge of Indiana.

He announces with pleasure "the differences existing among our brethren in MANITOBA have been happily terminated," and thus relates the healing of the Canada breach, designated heretofore by us as the Ontario revolt, viz :

After a severance from legitimate Freemasonry for upwards of three years, the greater portion– twenty in all—of those who were expelled by you in 1876, or suspended for their connection with the "Ontario" movement, have now expressed a desire to return to their allegiance, and have been restored by me to good standing in the Craft. A number of brethren residing in or near London, including those I had restored, lately presented petitions, accompanied by the requisite recommendations, and I created by dispensation the new Lodges, King Solomon's and Union, already referred to. I subsequently healed in the former Lodge, at the request of this Lodge and of my London brethren, some of those, resident in the locality, who had been irregularly made under the authority of the self-styled Grand Lodge of Ontario. The general regulations and conditions, which I have prescribed as to the healing and affiliation of irregularly made Masons, will, I trust, ensure the reception of worthy material only.

It will be gratifying to you to learn that what was called the Grand Lodge of Ontario has ceased to exist. The Seal used by it has been delivered up to be, and has been, destroyed, and the other formalities considered necessary for its extinction have been complied with.

We give from the report of "the Board of General Purposes" the financial statement, the fund having been reduced by legitimate causes, as explained, viz :

The funds of Grand Lodge on 31st December, 1878, were invested as follows :—

Dominion Stock bearing 6 per cent. interest	$31,073 33
Dominion Stock bearing 5 per cent. interest	23,975 00
Canadian Bank of Commerce	3,129 33
Total	$58,177 66

Which represents the balances at the credit of the following accounts :

General Fund	$24,423 96
Asylum Fund	8,289 65
Benevolent Fund. Investment account	22,655 27
Benevolence. Current account	2,808 78
Total	$58,177 66

Showing a decrease in the funds generally of $705 21, which is attributable to the large increase in the amount expended on Benevolence, the increase on this account being $1,980 00, and also to the increased expenditure for printing, caused by the publication in 1878 of the report on Foreign Correspondence for two years.

The Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory was recognized, and on the recommendation of the "Board on Grievances and Appeals," the following action was taken on the application of the Grand Lodge of

NEW SOUTH WALES:

A further application for recognition has been received from the Grand Lodge of New South Wales.

The circumstances attending the organization of this Grand Lodge are detailed in the Report on Foreign Correspondence of 1878 Most of the Lodges concerned in its formation were on the Scotch Register, and the Grand Lodge of Scotland has protested against the recognition of the new Grand Body.

Since then the English Lodge has transferred its allegiance, but a majority of the Lodges in the Province has not yet been secured.

The Board recommend that the further consideration of this application be deferred until the next Annual Communication of Grand Lodge.

CUBA and COLON, as reported by the Foreign Board "are both irregular," but action was postponed in the hope "that the Masons of Cuba will shortly settle their differences," etc.

The following is significant of attachment to the old E. A. business system, *i. e.* of conducting Lodge business on the *ground floor*, viz:

In accordance with notice given at the last Annual Communication, it was moved by R. W. Bro. John Cascaden, seconded by R. W. Bro. the Rev. C. W. Paterson—

That a new clause, to be numbered 37, be added to the Constitution on private Lodges, to read thus: "That all routine business in private Lodges shall be transacted in the third degree," and that all existing regulations to the contrary be hereby repealed.

The motion having been put to Grand Lodge, it was declared *lost*.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. James A. Henderson (elected)..... .....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Number of Lodges..... 334 (?)

COLORADO, 1879.

Annual Communication held on Tuesday the sixteenth of September, A. D. 1879.

Present—M. W. Grand Master Roger W. Woodbury, all except two of the Grand Officers, several Grand Representatives and twenty-three (of the 26) chartered Lodges represented.

The Grand Master's address is appropriate and instructive. He speaks of the beginning of Grand Lodge organization and the present prosperity of the Fraternity, which he unfortunately calls the ORDER, in this wise, viz:

Eighteen years ago this Grand Lodge was organized, with eight members, and the only brother, who still meets with us, is Right Worshipful Whittemore of No. 7. The others are all new faces, that year by year have been crowding the older off the stage of action, and assuming the

duties and pleasures appertaining to this Grand Lodge In another eighteen years those who are here to-day will have dwindled to a half dozen. Your name and mine may not then be found on this Grand Lodge roll, but we may be sure, if we will, of their being on that other roll from which the Master never strikes off a name. A conscientious application in our daily lives, of the virtues and principles taught in our several Masonic lectures, will certainly lead to a blessed haven.

It is a pleasure, next to finding my brethren well and happy. that I can inform them of prosperity in the Order in this jurisdiction. I should be sorry, indeed, to report the contrary, or that any considerable difficulties had arisen during the past year. In Colorado the *rule* has been, "a slow growth, but a sure one," and I trust the rule will continue to prevail. The greatness of our institution depends not upon the number of Lodges, or the number of members, but upon the influence exerted in the practice of virtue and morality by the members we have.

Of Lodge debt and finances he cautions prudently and judiciously, as follows:

The question of finance is one which may receive a share of your attention. Associations of men, like private individuals, are prone to create a debt, and they learn when too late that it is easier to get in than to get out. I fear it is too often the case that new lodges start off with a debt hanging over them, which like the old man of the sea can not be disposed of. I believe that a Lodge that is in debt for its habiliments, is not ready to be chartered; and a chartered Lodge in debt can not exercise that discretion in the use of the dark ballot that the purity of the Order demands. If the Lodge be in debt, and an applicant appears over whom hangs a little doubt, I fear that he and not the Lodge will obtain the benefit of the doubt. It costs money to establish a Lodge. This is to be expected at the outset, and if we are unwilling or unable to go down into our pockets in its behalf, we should permit the privilege of organization to be exercised by some other brethren. I believe it would be an excellent provision to require Lodges under dispensation to be free from debt before a charter be issued. Possibly we can not require our chartered Lodges to always remain free from debt, but the influence of the Grand Lodge should be exerted to impress its importance upon the representatives here, and urge them to use their influence at home. A debt in a Lodge is followed by high dues, and that by dropping from the roll for non-payment. This is the high pressure machine for the manufacture of non-affiliates. To prevent this, make the fees for degrees high, and the dues of members low. It is a mistake to confer the degrees for so small a sum as some Lodges are in the habit of doing. It belittles Masonry and is not good finance. It is of importance too to the great principle of charity which underlies our Masonic institution.

Dispensations declined as follows:

I have declined to issue dispensations in the following cases: 1st. To elect a W. M. from the floor, upon the request of the Master of a Lodge. The choice of Master is one of the privileges of the brethren, and the request should come from the Lodge and not the Master.

2d. To issue a dispensation permitting dancing in a Lodge room on St. John's Day. While refusing a dispensation I replied that there was no law to prevent such use of the hall.

3d. To issue a dispensation to ballot in less than the regular time

nntil the fee to the Grand Lodge was paid. Though this may be a trifling matter, I have held in this as in all other cases, that the Grand Lodge rules and laws mean exactly what they say, and are not for the Grand Master or Lodges to obey or disobey at their pleasure. In this case I consented to issue the dispensation on payment of the fee, but should require each member of the Lodge to be notified by special service that a ballot would be had at a special communication, and the candidate pass a satisfactory examination. No further application for the dispensation was made.

Quere.—Is a Lodge competent, under general Masonic usage, to elect a MASTER from the FLOOR (as we understand that term—i. e. from private members, regardless of the rights of Wardens, present or past)?—We think, too, there was a more important objection to the latter dispensation than the one alledged—members are supposed to be ready to attend a regular, but can not, frequently, obey the call for a special meeting—hence, it is not advisable to suspend the By-Law rule as to balloting, one of the most sacred of Masonic privileges. We quote most of his decisions and take exceptions to No. 7, if it is intended to preclude the W. M. from acting, on due information of the objections, for the objecting member. The committee on jurisprudence decide the same question in this wise:

The committee on jurisprudence report that according to Masonic law, no visiting brother can be excluded, unless the objection is made by a member of the Lodge present in Lodge.

And under this rule, strictly construed, if the brother having cause to object to the visitor, is unavoidably absent, his Lodge may entertain an unworthy guest to the injury of the rights of the absentee, and possibly to its own discredit. We think the rule is a little too stringent.

DECISIONS.

2. That in the absence of law upon the subject, the burial of a suicide may be left to the discretion of the Master.
3. That the Past Master's degree may be omitted at the installation of a Master if there are not enough brethren qualified to confer it present or to be obtained.
4. That the reconsideration of a dark ballot can not be entertained even on the proposition of a brother to declare in open lodge that he cast the black ball, and to move the reconsideration himself, when all the members are present who were present at the time of the rejection.
5. That the proper method to obtain the second or third degree in a Lodge, after having received one or more in another Lodge, is to make petition in the usual form but with the additional facts stated, and accompany it with the consent of the original Lodge under seal.
6. That such a petition must take the usual course of all other petitions for the degree.
7. That a member of a Lodge, when present at a meeting of his Lodge, can object to a visiting brother and the Master must thereupon exclude the latter.

8. That a subordinate Lodge can, in the absence of law upon the subject, use its discretion as to renting its Lodge room to other societies

9. That a brother in good standing can claim a dimit without giving reasons for the application, if he be clear on the books; but such application should be in writing even if he be present.

11. That the W. M. has the right to refuse admission to members of his Lodge during the progress of work which will be disturbed by their admission.

12. That a Lodge in this jurisdiction can not be opened in the absence of the Master and Wardens, except by the Grand Master or his representative.

14. I declined to reverse the decision of a former Grand Master, which was not disapproved by the Grand Lodge, that a person with one eye is ineligible for the degrees.

15. I declined to suspend the Master of a Lodge on the application of a visitor who felt injured because he had not received an invitation to a sociable given by the Lodge.

W. Bro. FRANK CHURCH, GRAND ORATOR, delivered an able address, a truly eloquent one indeed, on the characteristics of Masonry. He very properly gives prominence to the spiritual Temple, designed, by the GREAT ARCHITECT, to be erected, through mortal experiences of labor, groans and calamity—the rough work of adversity, which is preparing, nevertheless, smooth stones to adorn the ultimate Lodge on high; and rates the Trestle-board of material designs, with all its wealth of architectural skill and beauty, as altogether secondary to the plans which look to the adornment of the soul and tend to prepare it for "the life that is and is to be." We quote a few sentences to give our readers some indication of his thought, in his own words, viz:

Another has said, "Freemasonry is an Institution founded on eternal reason and truth, whose deep basis is the civilization of mankind, and whose everlasting glory is supported by those two mighty pillars science and morality." "A beautiful system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols." But, my brethren, is it not something more; is it not, in the true and comprehensive sense of the term, a religious Institution, resting upon the Holy Writings and the divine order of things? Before proceeding any farther let us see whether there is any foundation for the statement that it is a religious Institution. Roll back the wheels of time to a period long anterior to the building of the Temple; stand upon the very spot where the foundations were afterwards laid, and what do you behold? An altar—and upon that altar a sacrifice—beside the altar and sacrifice a father about to offer up his only and well-beloved son in obedience to command; but the final blow does not fall; the test is complete and a substitute is furnished; the hand of death is stayed and the destroyer is vanquished. So the mysteries of the Temple and its moral counterpart so cherished now, teach as they should, and teach with more power and emphasis than all the eloquence of press and pulpit combined, the lessons of a resurrection and a second life. Is it not then a religious association? Not religious in any narrow or restricted sense; not Christian or Jewish; not Pagan or Mahometan: Catholic or Protestant; but only simply

and purely religious. Religion is of God. Sects, forms, creeds and dogmas are of men. It is *universal religion* which it inculcates; that religion which is essential everywhere to the true character of man; that sense of obligation and final responsibility which affords the only security for the faithful observance of its own pure principles, and its solemn and sacred vows; a belief in the existence of a Supreme Being. His justice and goodness and the *immortality* of the *soul* are the elements of religion which it requires of its votaries, while it heeds not the dogmas and specific articles of faith which men have set up and called *the only true religion.* Masonry from its first beginning has indeed been the sanctuary of this universal religion. To preserve the knowledge of the true God from the assaults of paganism, when idolatry possessed the whole world, save the little land of Judea and the chosen people, was one of the objects of its organization.

It has preserved that knowledge through all these periods, which but for it must have been lost. The high and holy mission has been performed faithfully. It has come down to us with this religious element in its character unimpaired, and it will cease to be the Institution which has come down to us when it ceases to inculcate religion. * * * * * * *

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Brother E. H. Collins, for the Committee, makes a very readable and suggestive report on this topic. His review embraces the proceedings of 46 Grand Lodges, and he has apparently scrutinized their doings carefully, and criticised them judiciously.

Alabama proceedings for 1878—58th annual report—are kindly and favorably noticed. He quotes from Grand Master H. Clay Armstrong's annual address quite freely, styling his extracts, "the following beautiful passages." So indeed they are, for the exordium referred to, is unexceptionable.

In his conclusion he suggests a new thought on the propriety of the general American Grand Lodge censure (official) of the Grand Orient of France, as thus:

> However we may sympathize with the universal expression of disapprobation which the action of the Grand Orient of France has elicited, we would nevertheless remark that the proceedings of the American Grand Lodges in this matter are open to some criticism. If we are rightly informed, all or most of them had previously cut off the Grand Orient of France from all intercourse, because of other previous irregularities and unmasonic conduct. The Grand Orient then stood to us in the relation of an outsider, whose conduct we could no more notice, and which concerned us no more than the conduct of any other society or organization not of a Masonic character at all. If this be so, the American Grand Lodges, in taking this recent action, have passed upon a matter not within their cognizance, and however worthy the motive or proper the spirit, have nevertheless acted somewhat irregularly.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Brother Byron L. Carr . .....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother Ed. C. Parmelee (re-elected)... .....Grand Secretary.
Number of working Lodges 28 two of them U. D.

COLON—CUBA.

We are exceedingly gratified to be enabled to announce the satisfactory adjustment of this intricate, and but recently, increasingly important jurisdictional controversy. It had already, at the date of our last report, elicited intense interest in all the American Grand Lodges and in many of the European Masonic Bodies, causing many and diverse deliverances from our best masonic authorities and writers; many contending for the legitimacy of CUBA, others siding with COLON, and still others objecting to *both* organizations, and contending that a *new* and more regular start was needed to entitle either of the claimants to full recognition from the American Grand Lodges. Happily, this much discussed, and apparently needless dispute, is now ended by the voluntary, and truly fraternal, adjustment thereof by the late contestants and "all the clouds that lowered o'er our house" in CUBA are buried, as we hope, in the deep ocean of oblivion. We were not unprepared, as our former reports on this subject have intimated, for such, or a similar, adjustment of this matter. It is well that it is done so quickly.

We reproduce annexed the bulletins from our Brethren of CUBA, announcing, first the agreement to unite, in a second circular the united meeting of the two Bodies is proclaimed, and in the third, of date April 3d, 1880, we are favored with a list of the elected Grand Officers—and long may it live, prosper and increase in strength, usefulness, and fame—of the new

"UNITED GRAND LODGE OF COLON AND THE ISLAND OF CUBA."

The Grand Lodge of Alabama, we doubt not, will promptly welcome this new sister, by an early and cordial recognition, to all the privileges of a respected and deserving equal in the grand confraternity of masonic sovereigns.

The consummation alluded to is thus announced, viz:

OFFICE OF THE GRAND SECRETARY,
HAVANA, February 3, 1880.

R. W. Bro. Daniel Sayre, Grand Secretary Grand Lodge of Alabama:

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:—With the full authorization of our Grand Master, I have the pleasure to advance you the following notice about our jurisdiction.

As you will see by the heading of this, the Grand Lodge of Colon and

that of the Island of Cuba have ceased to exist, according to a special agreement with which I suppose you have been acquainted, they having been substituted by the new "United Grand Lodge of Colon and the Island of Cuba."

The project submitted by the Lodges and Masons of the jurisdiction of the "Grand Lodge of the Island of Cuba," through a special committee, for the purpose of becoming united to those of Colon, was accepted at last by the latter, so satisfying the fraternal advices and desires of almost all the foreign Grand Lodges, and the requirements of the Craft in this much disturbed jurisdiction, and at a Special Communication held on the 25th day of last January the proposed union was effected in accordance with the basis adopted beforehand.

From among the Grand Officers composing those two bodies there were elected by luck those who are to continue to fulfill the various charges until the session of the 28th day of next March, where the final election will take place, Bro. A. Govin remaining in the meanwhile to fill the office of Grand Master, and the two Grand Secretaries of the abolished bodies of Colon and the Island of Cuba to continue in their respective places, that is to say, Bro. G. J. Barnet for the Masons of Colon, and Bro. A. Almeida for those of the Island of Cuba.

You will receive in a short time the official communication for your Grand Lodge, in which an account will be given of the accomplished event.

We all hope that the contest, which has lasted so long, having come to an end, the Craft Masonry in this territory having been made a unit by its principal bodies, a new era of peace and progress will set in; that you, inspired by our sentiments, will grant to the new Grand Lodge the sympathy to which it is entitled, and that between your Grand Lodge and this the proper fraternal relations will be established.

In consequence of the effected union between "Colon" and the "Island of Cuba," this jurisdiction has to-day sixty-five constituent Lodges, and two under dispensation, and a total number of more than five thousand members. This number of Lodges and members will shortly be increased by the incorporation of other Lodges belonging to different organizations, and which were before subordinate to the Grand Lodge of Colon, in Havana, and it is to be hoped that other bodies dependent upon the Grand Lodge of Santiago de Cuba will follow the example.

I am very fraternally yours,

G. J. BARNET, Grand Secretary.

SECOND CIRCULAR—PUBLISHED IN ENGLISH, SPANISH, AND FRENCH.

"BRETHREN:—The Grand Lodges of Cuba and Colon presided over respectively by the undersigned, Juan B. Hernandez and Antonio Govin, yielding to the repeated solicitations on the part of their sisters abroad, and with the purpose of realizing in this country the masonic unity by assembling all the Cuban Brethren under one Grand Lodge, strong and powerful, have resolved to consolidate, which was carried into effect on the 25th of January last, in the city of Havana, with the previous unanimous consent of the constituent lodges of both.

"In so doing, both Grand Bodies have acted under the pre-determined consideration that any deficiencies that under any light might exist in the organization and establishment of their constituent lodges, should become thereby mutually healed and regulated. And we beg to forward

herewith the roll of lodges now working under the United Grand Lodge of Colon and Cuba, of which please take due notice.

"By this consolidation, the contest heretofore existing among Cuban masons has come to a satisfactory termination in accordance with the true spirit of masonry, and in communicating to your good selves this pleasant intelligence, we are happy to trust that all Grand Lodges will receive the same cheerfully, and continue to favor us with their fraternal disposition, whereas those that had withheld recognition will now welcome our United Grand Body to the great family of regular Grand Lodges.

"Havana, 28th February, 1880.

"Fraternally yours,

"JUAN B. HERNANDEZ. ANTONIO GOVIN,
Gr. Master.

"AUR'O ALMEIDA, *G. S.* [L. S.] G. J. BARNET, *Cor. Secret.*"

THIRD BULLETIN.

"*In Fordere Vis.*

"UNITED GRAND LODGE OF COLON AND THE ISLAND OF CUBA,

"Office of the Grand Secretary,

"Havana, April 7, 1880.

"*To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Maine:*

"BRETHREN:—In the annual session of this United Grand Lodge, commenced March 28, 1880, the following were elected and installed Grand Officers:

"M. W. Grand Master ANTONIO GOVIN.

"R. W. Deputy Grand Master—JUAN B. HERNANDEZ.

"Senior Grand Warden ANTONIO MESA Y. DOMINGUEZ.

"Junior Grand Warden—AUGUSTIN GARCIA MARCOS.

"Grand Secretary—AURELIO ALMEIDA.

"Grand Treasurer EDUARDO LOREDO.

"Chairman Committee on Foreign Correspondence—ENRIQUE A. LECERFF.

"Witness my hand and seal.

"Fraternally yours,

"AURO ALMEIDA. [L. S.]"

CONNECTICUT, 1880.

The ninety-second grand annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut convened in the city of Hartford, on Wednesday, January 21st, A. D. 1880, R. W. John H. Barlow, Deputy Grand Master, presiding.

This reminds us to notice, on the threshold of our report—and we do it sadly, and in full sympathy witth our bereaved Brethren of Connecticut—the great calamity which robbed them of their CHIEF, and caused the burial of the body of their "loved and lost" M. W. Grand Master. Untimely Death! We are tempted to exclaim, for he was just past 35 years of age, and was called hence before the close of his first

year of service in the Grand East. A man of mark, of true masonic worth and renown, he must have been, to have attained that high position so early in life, by the *free ballot* of such a wise and prudent assemblage of Masons as constituted the 91st annual communication, which elected him Grand Master. The emergent communication, held at Putnam October 23d, 1879, with its AMPLE burial service, its Lodge and Commandery escort, the tearful regret of brother and citizen, assembled to participate in those last solemn rites, mark his grave as that of a *most excellent* Grand Master. The action of the Grand Lodge, the memorial tablet, as well as the fine steel-engraved likeness of the deceased, adorning these proceedings, all give token that this was a man of no ordinary worth. He was indeed a "Prince among his equals."

Resuming our general review, we observe a fair attendance of Past Grand Officers and Grand Representatives, with one hundred and eleven (of the 112) constituent Lodges represented.

The work of the Lodge, devoted generally to routine duties, was pleasantly diverted therefrom by an episode involving the complimentary reception, with AMPLE honors, of P. G. Master John W. Simons, of New York, who responded to the honors of his reception "with a few eloquent words of friendly greeting." He came, albeit, as the representative of New York, to urge antagonistic views to Connecticut, in the pending controversy, known as the "Webotuck matter." A very serious and intricate subject of dispute, involving on the one hand (N. Y.) a belief and charge that legitimate members of her jurisdiction had been improperly appropriated by a sister jurisdiction (Connecticut), and on the other, the assertion of the right to retain the members claimed by New York, as they had voluntarily associated themselves with masons of that jurisdiction and asked for and obtained a charter from the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, thus becoming an essential requisite to the integrity of the organization of the new Lodge, etc. Connecticut disavows any intention to infringe upon the jurisdictional rights of New York, but contends that under the New York constitution, existing at the time of this occurrence, such expatriation, as the aforesaid members attempted, was not forbidden, that it is admissible, under general masonic law, for her to retain them, and that the degradation of her sovereignty in yielding them up, would far outweigh any infringement of New York authority in retaining them. The controversy is conducted admirably, both as to tone and talent, on both sides, and we doubt not will end, as all such disputes should end, in an amicable adjustment and full reconciliation.

On reading the New York report of 1879 relating to this controversy, we could see no excuse for Connecticut, but the very able report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, of Connecticut, found in these proceed-

ings, exhaustively presenting *their* view of the subject, convinces us that there are "two sides to the question," and reminds us forcibly of the aptness of the German couplet, rule of evidence, (as Grand Master Brown, of California, was reminded of it in a recent category of hasty conclusions), viz:

"One man's word is no man's word,
Justice needs that both be heard."

But with all the lights before us, and the subject has been fully discussed in both Grand Lodges, we cannot see how the New York claim as presented by Grand Master Roome, and his immediate predecessor, M. W. Edmund P. Judson, can be successfully controverted. The facts, as we understand them, show an infringement of jurisdiction on the part of Connecticut, however unintentional it may have been, and the best way out of such a breach of law and etiquette is an acknowledgment of error, and the making of such amends as are requisite. This we say with all deference to our intelligent Brethren of Connecticut, and are impelled to it, too, notwithstanding our habitual *bias* in favor of the weak against the strong, "but right is right, and there's an end of it."

Acting M. W. Grand Master Barlow delivered an excellent address, recapitulating concisely and with good method the occurrences of the year, and presenting in forcible words the subjects claiming the deliberations of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Secretary, Bro. J. K. Wheeler, gives us, in his report, an interesting item, disclosing the intent of Scotland towards Quebec, which we extract, exclaiming, alas! for the stubbornness of the descendants of old KILWINNING, viz:

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

On the 28th of January last, (1879) agreeable to the direction of this Grand Lodge, I forwarded to the Grand Secretary of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Scotland an attested copy of the report of your committee on jurisprudence relating to the controversy existing between that Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Quebec, on the question of jurisdiction, and shortly after received a reply which indicates the views of Scotland in reference to the matter.

The Grand Secretary says: "Meantime permit me to say for the information of your Grand Lodge, that the Grand Lodge of Scotland has no intention of invading the Masonic territory of any Grand Lodge in the United States; on the contrary, the Grand Master and other office bearers and members of the Grand Lodge of Scotland are most desirous of cultivating fraternal relations with these grand bodies. It is right, however, that you should know that the charters issued to new Lodges in the city of Montreal, Province of Quebec, will certainly not be withdrawn."

Since the receipt of the foregoing, I have received nothing relating to the subject.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Bro. Jos. K. Wheeler, Grand Secretary, furnishes the Report on Correspondence in his usual style of just discrimination and completeness. He reviews the proceedings of over 50 Grand Lodges, including those of Alabama for 1878—58th annual Report—giving them due consideration and our full quota of space. We thank him for his kindly reference to our share of the work of that report.

We assent most cordially to the following sentiments embodied in his "conclusion," viz:

The address of the Grand Masters, and reports of the various committees, express sentiments indicating a higher aim towards all those virtues which tend to make mankind better and happier.

The jurisprudence of the country at large has become more uniform on most questions which have been discussed, and there are but few matters of general interest that have not been decided in accord with the general sentiment.

There are a few, however, which become apparent to any one who will peruse the various proceedings. They are not altogether local; but rather of an international character, which would be adjusted, without doubt, had the institution a national government like some other bodies; but whether the organization of such a body would be conducive to the best interest of the Fraternity, taking everything into consideration, is a matter of doubt.

From time to time, the organization of a General Grand Lodge has been urged, and to-day has its votaries; but so much has been accomplished without it, we think in process of time, all existing difficulties on account of the difference in legislation may be removed.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. John H. Barlow (elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Joseph K. Wheeler (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Whole number of Lodges.....112

DAKOTA, 1879-80.

The fifth annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Dakota met in the city of Yankton, on Tuesday, June 10th, A. D. 1879.

Present—M. W. Grand Master Geo. H. Hand, with several P. G. Officers and the Representatives of six (of their nine) Chartered Lodges. The proceedings indicate no business of interest outside of that jurisdiction, save only the unfortunate and, to us appearing, unnecessary controversy with the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, the latter, as we think, being in fault. But we shall allude again to this matter before closing this review.

The Grand Master's address is appropriate and concise, alluding as well, to interesting occurrences in other jurisdictions as giving due consideration to home matters.—He announces the death of R. W. Mark W. Bailey, "who was Secretary of the Convention that organized this Grand Lodge, and was elected its first Grand Secretary, and re-elected to that position." He died 15th November, 1878, and is avouched for "as a young man of rare promise, and rising rapidly to eminence in his chosen profession of the law." "A true friend, an honest, upright man."

He decides two questions as to dimits, as follows, viz:

I have answered a good many questions during the past year, but have made very few decisions, and those not of a difficult character. Among them are the following:

Question.—How old should a dimit be to make a brother "not good in standing?"

Answer.—I know of no rule in this jurisdiction that limits the life of a dimit.

Question.—Suppose Bro. A. B. has been dimitted from his lodge ten years, can he apply for membership, and if so why can he not visit?

Answer.—If a brother was regularly dimitted from a legally constituted Lodge, is a man of good habits and character, even if his dimit be ten or twenty years old, I know of no reason why he may not be admitted to the membership of your Lodge. His right to visit is limited to three visitations, by resolution of this Grand Lodge, adopted at the last annual communication.

We have also the proceedings of the sixth annual communication, held in the same city, June 8th, 1880, a larger volume than its predecessors, quite a doubling of proportions, and indicating healthy, as well as rapid, progress in Grand Lodge "work and ways."

M. W. Grand Master Hand again presided in the Grand East and again SIX Chartered Lodges were represented—which, by the way, was not a proportionate representation, as compared with 1879, or a majority one either, for we observe that the Lodges had increased from a chartered and 2 U. D., in 1879, to SIXTEEN Lodges in 1880, all chartered, apparently.

The address of Grand Master Hand, to this communication was again characteristically chaste and comprehensive. He speaks favorably of the condition of the *Craft* under his OVERSEERSHIP, and alludes to the only disagreeable condition—the controversy of Minnesota growing out of a charter granted by the latter to Bismarck Lodge, located within the territory of Dakota. We shall give under the head of FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE some items of this dispute and will only say, now, that there appears to be a growing disposition to heal the breach and restore harmony on the part of both contestants. Grand Master Hand had received friendly letters from Grand Master Wells, of Minnesota, over-

turing for a delay of proceedings against the recusant Lodge (Bismarck) "until such time as circumstances should dictate a voluntary change in its allegiance," of which the former says :

I cannot but believe that the kindly and fraternal sentiments expressed by the present M. W. Grand Master of Minnesota, in his letters to me, will lead to a better feeling between the two Grand Jurisdictions, and ultimately to a settlement of these unhappy difficulties. In any proper effort looking to this desired end, I feel sure that every member of this Grand Body will be found ready to co-operate.

And the trouble was healed by the suggested action of BISMARCK LODGE, and although this disposes of the controversy as between these two Grand Lodge contestants in a way competent to restore peace it does not, in our opinion, properly dispose of the real question at issue as between the two Bodies involving the principle of Grand Lodge territorial jurisdiction which it seems to us was essentially violated by Minnesota in the act of chartering originally and subsequently of retaining control of Bismarck Lodge, and we shall as a matter of general interest, and of historical value as elucidating the usages of the Craft in matters pertaining to the *exclusive rights* involved, reproduce a portion of the very interesting remarks, thereanent, of Bro. W. H. H. Beadle, Chairman of Committee on

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The first effort of that Grand Lodge towards such official communication with her sister jurisdictions, and it is indeed a very able and interesting beginning, suggesting a feast of good things yet to come from our sister of Dakota. Brother Beadle after a full, clear, and exhaustive discussion of the facts and principles involved in this controversy, thus closes his remarks, viz :

What is the sum of the whole matter? The Grand Lodge of Dakota was regularly and duly organized and constituted. In its organization and after its constitution it sent every notice, invitation and item of proper information to everybody to which it was due. There is no such question as that about the G. L. of New South Wales over a minority of Lodges. It had six out of seven Chartered Lodges, and that seventh one is now of its registry. It now holds jurisdiction over many more, and is refused obedience by only one and that one was chartered nearly two years after the due constitution of the Grand Lodge of Dakota, and fourteen months after Minnesota acknowledged notice of it. Over that Lodge and its proportionate share of territory Minnesota claims continuing and permanent jurisdiction, to be terminated, if ever, not by Minnesota's act but by that Lodge's pleasure. Dakota has thus far exhibited only forbearance toward the Lodge in question, and may indefinitely do so without yielding or affecting her right.

What judgment do the wisdom and precedents of America apply to such state of facts? They say definitely and conclusively that Minnesota errs. Beginning with the introduction of organized Masonry in

America and coming down to the present there is seen a common rule to this effect, and the exceptions are only cases of temporary interest violating it. In colonial days there were provincial Grand Masters—some over definite boundaries, others over regions not so covered. These were the highest Masonic authority present, and stood in place of Grand Lodges which soon succeeded them. We have shown that from earliest times these provincial Grand Masters and the Grand Lodges began to declare and to practice this rule of exclusive jurisdiction. Massachusetts declared also that it was understood that charters in common territory were limited in duration by a Grand Lodge constituted therein. New York as early as 1765 declared this explicitly in a charter to Norwalk, Connecticut. Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Connecticut, South Carolina and others, originally or in response to Massachusetts, declared for exclusive jurisdiction. Virginia in 1779 enforced it. The Massachusetts doctrine brought harmony, unity and peace there, and the same rule kept it elsewhsre. So unquestioned and as a matter of course was this rule from the first that in 1815 Ohio applied it with free authority and invoked the aid of older jurisdictions with confidence. The original Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland declared and practiced it for themselves if not always toward others. This line of history and authority has continued unbroken until within a few years past, and that breach is a weakening toward a foreign demand and confessedly against our American interests and principles. The American treaties of consent confirm the rule most strongly, and the most doubtful cases do not impair it. The adverse claim is a very recent invention here, or a modification of Scotland's theory, and is without American precedent or present assent, except from a kindred interest or feeling, and they do not agree or point out a feasible practice for it. It endangers the peace of Masonry, is filled with elements of disorder, and opens a broad way for further innovations. The rule we contend for is the strong bond of harmony, a sure defense, and the end of strife.

* * * * * * * * *

This report was written prior to the session of the Grand Lodge, except a few brief notices which indicate the difference. During the session the pleasant event occurred, which the proceedings show, whereby the Lodge at Bismarck yielded its allegiance to, and was received upon the register of Dakota Grand Lodge. This removes the last of the differences between Minnesota and Dakota which have been the principal subject of discussion in these pages. We still, however, insist upon all we have said and stand firmly by the principles which must become universal in America before peace and comity are assured. We especially insist upon the right application of the American doctrine toward New Mexiso, and every small and new Grand Lodge struggling against a powerful and older one. We have felt the sneer of assumed experience and the contempt of an established power too keenly to forget others in like travail of a just defense. If Masonry cannot do the right and work justice and spread the cement of brotherly love by advances toward the weak and struggling, in place of sharp and cold technical thrusts at their life, it is time it had taken a new lesson in the primer of its morals and learned again its upright steps in regular principle.

Brother Beadle in addition to his comprehensive review of most

American Grand Proceedings, kindly welcomes and criticises the Alabama Report for 1879—59th annual communication.

He quotes approvingly from G. M. Armstrong's annual address, and from the report on correspondence, expressing of it the very flattering—

"We hope to read more as we expect to learn much from Brother Beers."

Please don't do that again, Brother B., for our face is too *red* already to endure another blush—red not from blossoming, or the like, but because of an unfortunate constitutional thin skin and ruddy complexion.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Geo. H. Hand (3d re-election).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Charles T. McCoy (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Whole number of Lodges..... 16.

DELAWARE, 1879.

The seventy-third annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Delaware was held, as appointed, in the city of Wilmington, on the 1st and 2d days of October, A. D. 1879.

Present, M. W. Grand Master John Taylor and a constitutional number of Subordinate Lodges (we count 19 Lodges, participating in the work) represented—with a number of permanent members, and ten Grand Representatives. The annual address of Grand Master Taylor is very brief, but seems long enough to express all that necessarily claimed utterance; indeed he said what was *necessary* and not a *word* more. The following extract contains all that can possibly interest the public—save only his ill-advised, as we think, recommendation (to the Grand Lodge) of "the Masonic Mutual Benefit Association of Delaware," as follows, viz:

It gives me happiness to state that within our particular jurisdiction, our Order is in a healthy, if not a growing, condition; peace and harmony are, I believe, universally prevalent. Differences of opinion upon minor topics doubtless exist. It would be anomalous and unnatural if it were otherwise.

Free Masons lay no claim to infallibility. Nor is knowledge confined to a favored few. We may not all coincide in opinions upon every subject; but this we can attain to, by the exercise of that charity which is the brightest jewel in the crown that embrows our glorious Order, we can "agree to differ."

Asserting the right to our individual judgment, let us not attempt to withhold the like privilege from our Brother.

Let me bespeak, then, for our present consultations, entire freedom from strife and contention, save "that noble contention, or, rather, emulation of who best can work and best agree."

It is with joyful emotions that I declare unto you the remarkable goodness and lenity of him who suffers not a sparrow to fall to the ground without his knowledge, in his dealings with the membership of this Grand Lodge, in withholding disease and sparing life. This is a subject for gratitude as well as for gratulation.

But whilst we rejoice at, and give thanks for, these evidences of tender regard and constant care, we have not been left without the solemn admonition which even a single instance of death expresses, that Masons have not, and cannot expect, exemption from the operation of that stern decree, that "it is appointed unto all men once to die."

With profound sorrow I announce to you that our ranks have been invaded by the grim messenger.

On Nov. 25th, 1878, our late Brother P. G. J. W., Wm. H. Dodd, entered into rest.

He was early in life admitted to a knowledge of the elevating doctrines and the sublime mysteries of our Order, and thenceforth he became and remained a devotee at the shrine of Masonry.

> "As the sunflower turns to his God when he sets,
> The same look which he gave when he rose,"

so our departed Brother never wavered in his devotion to our Order through a long life.

The reports of Grand Officers and of the committee suggest no work of other than routine interest. The report on

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE,

made by Brother J. W. H. Watson, Chairman, merely acknowledges receipt of sundry "reports of proceedings," including the Alabama report for 1878, and thus disposes of the matter contained therein, viz :

The reading of the above reports shows much that was of great interest to us, and we would have been pleased to have embodied herein such of their contents as we thought would be of general interest to the Craft in this jurisdiction ; but as your M. W. body at its last annual communication, thought an extended review was not of sufficient importance to the brethren to warrant the expense of its publication with the proceedings, we have refrained from more than merely acknowledging the receipt of the documents that have come into our hands.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Jno. H. Taylor (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. William S. Hayes (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Whole number of Lodges..... 22.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, 1879.

This M. W. Grand Lodge held several Grand Communications during 1879, viz : a "stated" meeting, convened January 22d, a "special" April 9th, and another of like nomenclature April 23d. The *Semi-An-*

nual was held May 4th, and the ANNUAL COMMUNICATION assembled November 12th, and was followed by the INSTALLATION COMMUNICATION, December 27th, of the same year. M. W. Grand Master H. A. Whitney, present and presiding at all of these communications, except the special of April 23d, Bro. Joseph S. McCoy, R. W. Deputy Grand Master, acting as Grand Master on that occasion. Why so many meetings? It would be quite impracticable to hold as many in a less compact organization than that of the DISTRICT, and there is a leaning in our region toward biennial instead of annual communications—Georgia leading off in that direction—because of the heavy expenses attending such assemblies and the tendency towards *too much law*, supposed to be encouraged by, even, annual meetings. However, it is not ours to object to the *customs* of our Brethren of the District. We know that the proceedings of all of the communications referred to, were interesting, and have afforded us pleasant and instructive reading.

The STATED, of January 22d, was occupied in considering the finances of the Grand Lodge—the report of the Committee on Library—a very good report, but apparently not altogether satisfactory, for we note the appropriation for the purchase of new books was entrusted to a *special committee*—and two important reports on Jurisprudence, from Bros. A. G. Mackey and Chas. F. Stansbury, P. G. Masters. The first, relating to a By-Law of Washington Centennial Lodge conflicting with the constitution of the Grand Lodge, and of course sustaining the supremacy of the Grand Lodge. The latter report relates to a question arising under the system of Grand Lodge aepresentation, as practiced in America. This report is interesting in itself, and elucidates a subject not heretofore discussed in our reports, and we therefore extract its substance, viz :

The system of representation was introduced into Masonry not very many years ago by the Grand Lodge of New York. It was for the laudable purpose of establishing a more efficient bond of fraternal union between the Grand Lodges of our common country, and with this view was readily accepted by them.

No law or regulation, however, was adopted by the Grand Lodge which initiated the system, nor to our knowledge has any since been framed by that or any other Grand Lodge.

Custom alone has governed the appointment and the recognition of Representatives, but that custom has been very uniform and uninterrupted. To that custom we must therefore refer for the decision of the question submitted to us, because, in the absence of positive law, custom or usage becomes an unwritten law. It is true that the legal maxim requires the usage to have existed from time immemorial, but in the present case we are compelled to restrict ourselves to the comparatively brief period that has elapsed since the creation of the system of representation.

The fact that the period has been so brief in which the usage has prevailed merely takes from it the character of a landmark, and leaves to

any Grand Lodge the power of making such regulation on the subject as it may deem expedient.

But this Grand Lodge has made no such regulation, having hitherto been governed in the appointment and recognition of Representatives by the usage that has prevailed in other Grand Jurisdictions.

By this usage, therefore, your committee thinks that we must be governed until some regulation is made by the Grand Lodge.

According to this universal and uninterrupted usage in all the jurisdictions of this country, the Representative from a sister Grand Lodge must be a member of the Grand Lodge to which he is accredited.

The dissentients from this view endeavor to support their opinion by an analogy drawn from the qualifications of representatives from one kingdom or State to another, who are not required to be, and indeed never are, citizens of the State to which they are accredited.

But on consideration it will, we think, be found that the analogy does not hold good. For, in the first place, the ambassador or envoy from one State to another is required to be a citizen or subject of the State which he represents. Therefore if the analogy is extended, it would require that all Representatives should be members of the Grand Lodge which they represent.

To adopt this rule would be virtually to abolish the whole system. Each Grand Lodge in the United States would be required to send one of its members annually to the communication of each of the Grand Lodges with which it was in alliance. It need not be said that this scheme would be wholly impracticable.

And in the second place, the Representative is not the ambassador or envoy of the Grand Lodge which appoints him. He is not required to perform ambassadorial functions, nor are we aware of any instance in which those functions have ever been performed by a Representative. It is an office of honor and dignity, conferred without expectation of compensatory services.

In the proceedings of the same communication we find the following resolution, indicating a membership forbidden to all other Masonic Bodies. Possibly "the ladies of the fraternity" are so ranked by a sort of *brevet*, incident to their intimate association with *crafts-men!* However, we are for paying off the Bonds, and in *greenbacks:*

"*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the propriety of obtaining the co-operation of the ladies of the fraternity in devising means for the redemption of the Masonic Hall bonds, and that they report the result of the conference to the next meeting of the Grand Lodge."

The work was exemplified at the SPECIALS of April 9th and 23d. At the SEMI-ANNUAL of May 14th, a question of no little interest and importance was discussed—a member of one of the Lodges, when sick and supposed to be *in extremis*, had joined the Romish Church, and at the instigation of his Priest had promised to renounce masonry. Recovering from his illness, he addressed a letter to his Lodge asking for a dimit. No reason was assigned then for the request, and he was clearly entitled to a dimit had he applied in *person*, as their rules re-

quired in such cases, and he was so informed, but he was inhibited from entering the Lodge by his church vow. Subsequently he was summoned to attend, failed to do so, and for that neglect of summons, was tried and acquitted ; when the facts of his peculiar position, Priestly control, were for the first time declared, verbally. An appeal to the Grand Master, growing out of this complication for a dimit, was answered by him a little contrary to Grand Lodge law, recommending a dimit, which was then granted by the Lodge on the original written application, &c. We do not see that the action of the Grand Master was seriously objected to by the Grand Lodge.

At this communication, the Committee on Jurisprudence made reports on the Quebec-Scotland controversy, and also the application for recognition by the (so-called) Grand Lodge of New South Wales. As to the first, they recommended, and it was adoptod, the following strong (too strong, we think) resolution, viz :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be directed to notify all the Lodges of this jurisdiction that this Grand Lodge forbids the admission of any visitor from the Province of Quebec into any Lodge in the District of Columbia unless he, previous to his examination or avouchment, presents the certificate of the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Quebec that the Lodge from which the proposed visitor hails is a legally constituted Lodge, holding its warrant from the said Grand Lodge.

The statement and resolution in favor of the recognition of New South Wales, are equally explicit, exceptionably so, for with all due deference to Bro. Mackey, we think he gave too little heed to the fact, as we understand it, that this Grand Lodge was formed by a *minority* of the Lodges in that territory, and against the earnest remonstrances of the mother Grand Lodges of England and Scotland, who still refuse their assent to the movement, and urge weighty objections to its recognition :

Every act appears to have been done in proper form. As the law has long been settled on this continent, and recognized in the case of the Grand Lodge of Canada by the Grand Lodges of Europe, that it is competent for any number of Lodges, not less than three, holding charters from the same or from different Grand Lodges, and being in a territory where there is no Grand Lodge, to organize an independent Grand Lodge, your committee do not think it necessary to discuss this already adjudicated question, but simply recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia recognizes the Grand Lodge of New South Wales as a legally-formed independent Grand Lodge, entitled to all the prerogatives of such a body.

The annual communication—November 12th—abounds in matters of interest, and we had marked quite a number of items as worthy of comment, but are admonished that our space will not admit of any further

extended remarks on the work of this jurisdiction. Briefly, then, Grand Master H. A. Whitney, in his annual, as in all of his addresses, is clear, concise and intent upon business. He says of the Craft under his overseership, that—

In accordance with the provisions of Section 4 of Article 6 of the Constitution, I have just completed the series of Grand visitations, and it gives me pleasure to report that after a careful scrutiny of the affairs of each Lodge, I find them all to be in a prosperous condition, and acting in strict conformity to the requirements of the Grand Lodge. A fair share of work is being done, and it is to be hoped that the material accepted is of the very best quality. Bad material is what we have most to guard against and most to fear.

The suggestion of 1877, for a "Board of Relief," seems to have been steadily adhered to, resulting in a consummation quite acceptably efficient and useful.

Bro. Grand Secretary Wm. R. Singleton appears to abound in labors. He presents two excellent reports, one on OLD Records, and the other as GRAND HISTORIAN. How we long for the advent of that history; please consider us an applicant for the first copy of the first edition, which are suggestive of ample and very difficult work done, and to be done. Besides this, he furnishes as usual one of his excellent reports on

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

All too short (necessarily so by limitation of the Grand Lodge) to satisfy our desire for information from the thoughtful mind and ready pen of this able reviewer. We are especially disappointed that he could say *so little* in response to the proceedings of Alabama for 1878, the Report of our 58th annual communication being acknowledged and very briefly noticed. However, we hope for "better luck" another time.

Bro. Singleton reviews the proceedings of fifty-two American Grand Lodges, and gives us also some items in reference to England, Ireland and Scotland, without, however, alluding to their antagonist views as to the recognition of the Grand Lodge of New South Wales. In his

CONCLUSION

He discusses very elaborately his favorite specific for alleged, and actual, diversities of opinion in Grand Lodge rulings, on the important principles of masonic law jurisprudence, and defends his proposition for a general convention to harmonize and adjust those differences. He, in this report, answers especially, objections urged by Bro. Vaux, of Pennsylvania—objections intimating the impractability, if not *impossibility*, of Bro. Singleton's remedy—and Bro. Drummond, of Maine. We cannot follow up this interesting discussion to an extent sufficient,

even, to illustrate its merit, but give below an extract from Bro. Singleton's closing remarks, which apply generally, as well as to the specific, topic of controversy which elicited them, and are beautifully expressed, viz :

"The centre of authority rests in the Deity, whom we confess; the centre of effective authority, *i. e.* Masonic authority, rests primarily in the Lodge organization, and in the Grand Lodge for each Lodge organization.

The private members are primarily bound to their own Lodges, and through the latter to the Grand Lodge. Now the Grand Lodge on granting chartered privileges to the Lodge holds the Master and Wardens to a strict account for their stewardship, and they represent, by the same system, these Lodges in the Grand Body. Past Masters for a long time had no voice or vote in Grand Lodge. It is comparatively a very recent thing to admit them to a share in Grand Lodge, and the common rule now is to give all the Past Masters of a Lodge only one collective vote, while the Master and the Wardens in many Grand Lodges have each a vote and in all have at least two; here is at once a confessed disparity between the past and present officers of the Lodge, and it is commonly acceded to as being correct since the great discussion on that subject in New York, in the embroglio of the St. John's Grand Lodge.

The Landmarks constitute the soul and most of the body of the 39 Constitutional Regulations, hence the reservation as to their alteration.

Many of our Grand Lodges, with the views of Brother D., have gone into the business extensively of altering the old Regulations, until in some features they can scarcely be recognized. The rules and regulations of the Modern Societies have caused much trouble in our camp upon the principle of progression. We again raise the warning voice against this attempt to bring into our institution, founded upon the strict principles of charity alone, such laws as must be employed in beneficiary institutions for their protection and preservation. Our's will stand forever, nothing can hurt it permanently; but the others must depend upon the most rigid principles of financial management, or they must succumb.

The fig and olive trees are often cut down to their roots by the severe frosts in winter; in the spring young shoots will arise and the figs and olives will again be abundant. It is presumed that the same roots of fig and olive trees continue to bear trunks and branches filled with fruit that existed for many centuries before our era. Masonry like them may be cut down by persecution, by the defection of her own members, but the roots are deep down in our moral nature and must spring up again in the human heart. They can never die while men shall live. If our financial resources become exhausted, we can contribute no charity in funds, but the hearts of the brethren may be as benevolent as ever if beneficence be impossible.

The difference between us and the other associations is manifest, and our legislation must also differ. And it is to this point we desire to direct the thoughts of those who aim to *make* laws for our government. Take a look at our good old Mother Grand Lodge in England. Her constitution was last formed in 1813. Consult those articles and sections, and see how in the last sixty-six years she has been able to accomplish

so much in the way of charity and how little legislation has been done by her in these many years.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Joseph S. McCoy..... .. Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Wm. R. Singleton (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Whole number of Lodges.....21

FLORIDA, 1879–1880.

We have proceedings, this year, of two annual communications of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Florida (making amends for the last two years deficiency), viz:

The 50th annual, held at Jacksonville, 21st January, A. D. 1879, and the 51st convened in the same city, on Tuesday the 20th of January, 1880.

M. W. Grand Master William A. McLean presided in the Grand East on both occasions, and there was a good attendance of Grand Lodge constituents at each communication. Sixty-one (of 75?) Lodges were represented in the first, and in the last (1880) there appears to have been representatives from sixty-four chartered Lodges.

Grand Master McLean in each of his annual addresses appears to have been intent on the thorough exposition of the condition and wants of the Craft in his jurisdiction, and treats also, quite elaborately, of the duties and responsibilities of Masons, and the characteristics and beauties of the institution. He gives "good and wholesome instruction," conveyed in pleasant phrase, but, to our taste, is a little too *preachy*, if we may use the expresssion, in word and matter, sometimes.

He decides (1879), virtually, that a petition presented to a Lodge and action thereon deferred, by vote of the Lodge, is not *received*, &c., and that under such action the applicant has the *right to withdraw it*. To this we dissent most emphatically. The Lodge was in possession, and had *control*, of the matter thus presented and acted upon, even though that action was a resolution postponing definite consideration to a future day, as in the case alluded to, and the applicant could only withdraw the petition with the *consent* of the Lodge.

We give a few excerps from his address, of 1879, as they give pleasant assurance of prosperity in Florida as well as express ideas or sentiments of practical utility—generally—viz:

I am of the opinion that, in our own, and many other jurisdictions, Masonry never occupied a higher plane of purity and progress than at the present time, and the indications point to increased effort on the part of the fraternity to elevate its moral standard so high as to impress the better classes of all nations and kindreds, that its principles are

sublime, its morals pure, and that its mission is nothing less than the inculcation of a better, purer, higher life among men.

But this grand achievement, however desirable, can be accomplished only by united effort and practical labor; and first of all, it must be well understood that some grand foundation principle lies at the base of every science; and the sooner it is understood to good purpose that the superstructure of Free Masonry is erected upon a basis higher, purer, and more substantial than mere forms and ceremonies, the better will it be for the Order.

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Another prevailing error is that of regarding Masonry in a merely speculative light; to lay the greatest stress upon doctrines, to the exclusion, almost, of action. Nor is the *sole* object of Masonry in the performance of the operative part.

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Speculative Masonry must be the basis on which the superstructure of motive, as well as action, is founded; for, without a correct motive, the best action is devoid of sincerity; but without action—that is, without the performance of the operative part—the best profession is nothing more than a sounding brass or a tinkling cymbol—a charm, not only deceiving others, but the professor of sound doctrines may himself slumber away his existence in holy ecstacy of moral indolence, possessed, nevertheless, in imagination, of superior excellence and holiness.

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May the glorious day be not far distant when existing evils shall have been corrected; much needed deficiencies supplied; the indolent drones of indifference and inactivity be abated by being cast out from the busy hive of industry and progress; and when the outer door of the Masonic sanctuary shall be so closely tiled that none but the good, the true, and the virtuous shall be enabled to gain admission to its honors and joys: when the nations of the earth shall behold with joyous admiration the excellent glory of our mission and the purity of our practices, and exclaim, in joyous exultation: "How good, and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell in the courts of the Lord, for there the Lord commands his blessing—for there His name is known and loved, acknowledged and honored."

One new lodge created in 1879—Kings Ferry Lodge—U. D. No deaths in that year, but in 1880 the death of Brother

H. H. Berry

is announced thus:

Death has invaded the portals of our own Grand Lodge, and deprived us of one of our brightest jewels, by removing our much beloved brother, Henry H. Berry, of Monticello.

Brother Berry was a faithful friend, a good citizen and a zealous Mason. He lived respected, and died regretted. The attentive ear will no more be greeted by his instructive utterances. The watchful eye is closed—the instructive tongue is silent—and this Grand Lodge is called upon, not to shed the sympathetic tear only, but to mourn departed worth; and yet, my brethren, while we mourn our loss,

"Hope looks beyond the bounds of Time,
When what we now deplore,
Shall rise in full, immortal prime,
And bloom to fade no more."

The Lodge work of this Grand Body was abundant, in both of the communications under consideration, and was both well and faithfully performed.

In 1881 several new propositions were entertained, one the establishment of a Committee on Work, suggested in 1879 and perfected in 1880, and under this committee the work on the 1st and 2d degrees was exemplified; while Bro. DeWitt C. Dawkins, P. G. M. and present Grand Secretary, illustrated the M. M. degree on a candidate presented by Duval Lodge No. 18, and in that Lodge, the members of the Grand Lodge being present as visitors.

The other proposition relates to an amendment of the constitution, substituting biennial for annual communications of that Grand Lodge; (so, the Georgia influence and example spreads—referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, and by them opposed, but reporting that:

While they are individually opposed to the amendment, and think it would work an injury to the Craft, yet they recommend that the proposed amendment be spread upon the minutes of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, in order that the Particular Lodges may consider the subject and be prepared to vote intelligibly upon the question.

The report from the Committee on Education recommends, very appropriately:

That, as noble a work as any in which they might engage, is in the exercise of their privileges as citizens and in the discharge of their duties, to give their whole influence in behalf of a liberal education of the whole people.

The Reports on

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE,

For both communications, were made by Bro. DeWitt C. Dawkins, Grand Secretary, and Chairman of Committee, and are excellent resumes of the general purport of the proceedings referred to that Committee. Very good substitutes, indeed, for the usual, more detailed reports on that topic, now inhibited by the financial weakness of the Grand Lodge. We are necessarily compelled to omit mention of several interesting events of the two sessions for want of space. Everything seems to have been done in order, and harmony prevailed throughout the sessions under review. One only mortifying event occurred, in the necessity of publishing to the world of masonry, the perfidy of their late Grand Treasurer, DANIEL L. OAKLEY, and of preferring charges against and trying the delinquent.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. William A. McLean (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. DeWitt C. Dawkins (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Whole number of Lodges..... 75

GEORGIA, 1879—None.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Georgia having elected to hold biennial communications, after 1879, and until 1882, the year 1879 was an off year in that jurisdiction, and we regret to announce no tidings from Georgia. We believe the supervision of the Craft was left to a Grand Commission, in the interregnum of Grand Lodge meetings, and that bulletins from that Commission have been forwarded, for 1879, to some jurisdictions; but if any such message was posted to Alabama we have not heard of it. So adieu! perhaps a long adieu, (for we may not, probably will not, be here, as correspondent, another year,) to the masonic officials and representatives of our native State!

IDAHO, 1879.

Grand Lodge met in its 12th Grand Annual Communication at Boise City, Tuesday, September 9th, A. D. 1879.

Present—M. W. Grand Master E. A. Stevenson, with Grand Officers, (eight vacancies filled by appointment of the G. M.) 48 Past Masters, and Representatives from ten (of their *ten total*) Subordinate Lodges.

The Report before us is quite interesting, and is presented in a neat volume, excellently well printed, and having an added value in the appendix reproduction of the proceedings of their first annual communication—1868.

The Grand Master's annual address is long and able. He discusses many questions, both of local and general interest to the fraternity, and does them all full justice.

He had appointed Grand Representatives, one each to twenty-seven Grand Lodges, named in his address, our worthy Bro. R. W. Junior Grand Warden, John Gideon Harris, being gazetted for Alabama.

We like his answer to the following question, viz:

Question.—A Masonic Lodge occupies a hall in joint occupancy with other societies. Should a Mason die who also belongs to these other societies, *could these* societies participate and take part in a Masonic funeral?

Answer.—No. The Master of a Lodge having received notice of a Master Mason's death and of *his request* to be interred *with the ceremonies of Masonry*, fixes the day and hour for the funeral and issues his command to summon the members who live in the vicinity (and are not too distant) to attend. A Masonic burial is not a ceremony distinct and

disconnected from the other ceremonies of Masonry. It is the type of which the Lodge ceremonial in the *third degree is emblematical.* The procession, the hymn, the prayer, the position at the grave, the casting of the evergreen, the Grand Honors, all these though seemingly unmeaning and public can be understood as to their essential nature and meaning by Master Masons only. Now if any other societies have adopted these ancient ceremonies in whole or in part, they can only be to them unmeaning forms On the burial of the deceased *Brother*, the Lodge is at *labor*, and must have absolute control, and while exercising this control no *non-Masonic* society can be permitted to participate.

As to the joint occupancy of a Masonic Hall with non-Masonic associations, my earnest hope is that the time is not far distant when every Lodge in Idaho will own its Masonic home and be able to keep its altars, symbols and furniture secure from change or alien encroachment.

He claims that masonic anniversaries should (St. John's day, especially,) "never be allowed to pass by' without recognition and proper observance.

Remonstrates against a growing neglect of attendance on Lodge meetings and duties, and lectures on the cardinal virtues, he regrets to see persons flaunting the Masonic Symbols as decorations, who are both ignorant of "their moral significance," and unworthy of the distinction thus emulated.

He urges attention to the subject of Education, and recommends the establishment "of an institution of learning on a small scale at first, with an ultimate view to its becoming Polytechnic," &c. To this recommendation the Grand Lodge responded by appointing a Special Committee of eight, to whom the subject was referred, to report, we presume, to the next annual communication.

He discourses interestingly on many other topics, such, for instance, as "the secret ballot," "a mason's word," "stand by and maintain the ancient Land-marks," "antiquity of Freemasonry," &c.

As we delight in the *antiquities*, we reproduce a few of his sentences under the latter *head*, viz :

But through all the persecution that wicked men could bring to bear against it, the grand old edifice of Freemasonry stands unshaken, as bright as a pillar of fire, and as glorious as an army with banners. Ours, then, is an aged institution and yet is not too old to do good. While it is more ancient than the civilization of both Europe and America and its organization even antedates by centuries the language which we speak,—still its mission is not yet accomplished, nor will it be until sorrow and suffering shall have left the world.

We delight in its antiquity because there is an irresistible enchantment about everything that is hoary-headed and aged. The old Mason whose head is silvered o'er with the frosts of many winters and whose body is curved by the weight of years is more to be respected than at any other period of life. The old arm-chair and the old family Bible all scarred and torn, is treasured all the more because of their scars, their age, and their history.

Thus it is with Freemasonry, we revere it because it is the oldest secret society on the globe, and its age alone should make it honorable.

Masonry has a grand record in this, that it has triumphed over all and survived every opposition which *kings*, *priests* or *potentates* could bring to bear against it. The battering ram of ignorance, bigotry and superstition has been beating against the walls of our institution for centuries, but only to reveal the feebleness of its efforts when directed against a society that is founded upon truth.

The old battle-flag, shot asunder by the bullets of the foe, is revered and loved by every true soldier as he loves his life, his country and his God. Decay and death are written upon everything in nature; nations, thrones and kingdoms are yielding to this law. But our glorious temple of Freemasonry grows stronger and brighter with the roll of years.

He declined a re-election, after three years of Grand Master service.

Suitable resolutions were passed, expressing disapproval of the late action of the Grand Orient of France. Our Brethren of IDAHO did not denounce, but utilized the action of France, as a lesson of caution to themselves, as follows, viz:

Our Grand Masters have from time to time called the attention of the Craft to the noble principles of the fraternity and urged a firm reliance upon God, and obedience to His precepts as contained in the Holy Bible. And yet how lightly we have treated their advice and exhortations given.

We cannot control the Grand Orient of France, but we can control ourselves and each other, and what "poor infidel France" has done, Idaho may do. We therefore offer the following resolutions:

Resolved, That we deeply deplore the action of the Grand Orient of France, in declaring that a belief in the one ever living and true God, and the immortality of the soul is not necessary in order to be made a Mason, and removing from the Lodge Room the Holy Bible, the Great Light in Masonry.

Resolved, That a belief in the one ever living and true God, the immortality of the soul, and the Holy Bible, as the rule and guide of our faith and practice, is the very ground-work of Masonry, and the Mason or the Lodge, Grand or subordinate, that rejects or denies either, is unworthy the name of Mason.

Resolved, That we as a Grand Lodge and individually, will henceforth strive to exemplify by practice as well as precept our belief in the one ever living and true God, by never using his name except with that reverence due from the creature to the Creator, and as far as possible to practice the principles of Masonry daily, and urge our brethren within this jurisdiction to do the same.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Brother Charles Himrod*.....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother L. F. Cartee.....Grand Secretary.
Whole number of Lodges.....10

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* Late Grand Secretary. Query.—Is he of Erie, Penn? "We would very much like to know."

ILLINOIS, 1879.

Grand Lodge assembled its fortieth grand annual communication at Chicago, October 7th—Tuesday—A. D., 1879. Another largely attended and busy meeting. Grand Master Theodore T. Gurney in the Grand East with all Grand Officers at their posts; present, also, the representatives of 651 (of their 691 total) chartered lodges, and also Grand Representatives of 38 Grand Jurisdictions—Alabama being represented in *this* the first Grand Lodge convocation of the year in which such a *rare* occurrence is noticed, according to our reading of reports in the series thus far received. We "make a note of it" partly to call attention to the fact that *we are not efficiently represented* before most Grand Lodges, and partly to thank Bro. Jas. A. Hawley, our representative reported as present, for *his* faithfulness to the duty entrusted to him.

Grand Master Gurney delivered an excellent address, unexceptionable in word and matter. We like his general remarks, as to his own duties and the obligations of the Craft, and quote them. After alluding very feelingly to the death of W. Gilbert R. Smith, P. Master of Blaney Lodge No. 271, and others of his jurisdiction, and paying a well deserved tribute of respect to the memory of the late R. W. Bro. Thos. J. Corson, of New Jersey, he speaks thus of home and general matters:

> We now turn from the shadows of the mysterious empire, to reflections less depressing, but that are to measure our fitness for its exalted relations.
>
> It is exceedingly gratifying to meet this large representation of the Craft. I see before me men of culture and refinement; brethren selected from every department of life—picked men, elevated to positions of responsibility without regard to gold or other finite considerations, but because they are supposed to represent not only practical, but ethical fraternity. It would be unnecessary, therefore, to remind you that thoughtful men, gathered with us here or standing without the portals of our Mystic Temple, are weighing on critical balances, and of our own fabrication, our value to the general welfare, and that, upon their estimate, as the record comes to them from these revolving years, will largely depend the utility of our existence as a fraternal benevolent power. Brethren, the grandest possibilities of our race are embraced in the Masonic virtues. They are the flowers that adorn both cottage and mansion, and are as necessary to our highest personal development, good government and social security, as is brain to intelligence.
>
> My duties have not been less onerous than those of my predecessors. The anxious oversight of 700 lodges of our jurisdiction involves thought and labor that is not comprehended, except by a Grand Master.
>
> In the discharge of my obligations, it has been my purpose to impress the graver considerations attaching to our Organization. Faith and Hope are not abstractions; neither is Charity to be measured by material considerations. Each point to a life that recognizes the distinctions between manhood and degradation, purity and vice.
>
> You will please bear with me, brethren, if I am more specific.

Any extended intercourse with the world will demonstrate that vice, even in its most attractive forms, cannot have any place in man's material, intellectual, or moral development. The founders of our mysteries were men who comprehended our highest interests, and were not unwilling to place upon the record their faith in God's wise provisions for the welfare of his creatures. It was not unknown to them that moral uncleanliness was the grand agent in human degredation; shutting out hope for the present and future, and, if permitted complete ascendency, man's development must be an impossibility, and Masonry a burdensome and useless imposition upon our credulity. Entirely familiar, then, with the reflections from our Great Light, they engrafted into our organization the divine enunciation, that man's possibilities were in the ratio of their compliance with His mandates. It has not occurred to some that drunkenness is but another name for poverty, disease, and moral decrepitude—it has not occurred to others that licentiousness is but a synonym of physical and moral deformity, and that profanity is but the expression of a normal tendency to disregard their own well being; neither has it impressed the multitude that vice was an enervating, exhaustive agency, while Virtue finds its reward in transforming waste places into the beautiful, and only making possible "the fatherhood of God, and the brotherhood of man." I ask your attention to these germ thoughts of Masonry in the sincere belief that our influence as Masons and lodges is entirely dependent upon our willingness to convey to the world, by precept and example, a determination to abide under the shadows of our altars.

I appeal to you, brethren, to purge your lodges of impurity. It may not be possible to reach, by discipline, every infraction of law, but you can, by the force of a blameless life, banish the demoralizing influences of the unfaithful, and throw around your Masonic homes a halo of manhood that will invite commendation rather than unfriendly criticism.

In all this we must not forget that "Masonry is a law unto itself." Its perpetuity is dependent upon the force of its own influences. It never demands affiliation with other humanizing agencies. Its peculiar methods are its power, and when these are in the hands of brave and true men, we may rest content that it will occupy no unimportant place in the world's history. Neither is the lodge a reformatory institution. It is to fit a rough, but sound Ashlar for the Spiritual Edifice, but it was never designed that this Temple should be a house for decayed stones, to which no amount of manipulation could impart strength or polish. Reject every blemished Ashlar, and accept none that cannot endure the tests of the overseer's inspection.

Under the *head* of—

MASONIC RELATIONS

He discusses many interesting events of the year in which other jurisdictions were either concerned or complicated, and in a way to insure the rightful Masonic adjustment of any similar difficulties—alludes regretfully to the still unsettled dispute between Scotland and Quebec and firmly reasserts the propriety of their non-intercourse resolution of the previous year, as against SCOTLAND.

He is very *pronounced* in opposition to *Gift Enterprises*. Speaks hopefully of financial recovery from the shock occasioned by the default of

their late Grand Treasurer (Bro. Glenn), whose indebtedness is stated at $10,462 14, and speaks truly and intelligently, both of the offense, and the bond safeguard relied upon to avoid loss in such cases. We do not and never did approve of BONDS from Masonic officials, indeed esteem the system an evil, both in secular and masonic affairs, which requires security of that description, for it makes the officer a slave to the associates indorsing his integrity, and is not half so efficient in accomplishing the end aimed at as an appeal to *honor*, backed by stringent laws effectively executed, punishing such offences. It is a relict of the past, is anti-American, and will have to be abandoned when men progress a little more towards moral uprightness and personal self respect. But this is a terrible digression, and we return to Grand Master Gurney's views in a hurry, thus :

I dislike very much to make further allusion to those unfortunate transactions—unfortunate because they reflect upon the integrity of brethren who have had a large place in the fraternal regard of the Craft of our jurisdiction.

I do not indulge in any disposition to foster unpleasant memories, but I do wish to insist that these gross derelictions of duty may not, in the future, escape the disciplinary attention they merit. It is not much encouragement for our lodges to provide funds to meet the demands that are liable at any moment to command our benevolence, and then see them dissipated by speculation, or devoted to private interests of any kind.

I am of the opinion that the practice of insisting upon bonds from our financial agents should be discontinued. They are valueless because never enforced.

The Grand Master under the topic of

PERSONAL JURISDICTION,

Invites renewal of discussion on a subject adjudicated the year before in the following remarks :

The action of the Grand Lodge, affirming the decision of W. M. Bro. Robbins, 1877, ("Where a candidate after being rejected by one lodge, removes into the jurisdiction of another, neither lodge can receive his petition without obtaining the consent of the other,") I believed then, and remain of the opinion was inimical to well established principles that have governed in such cases.

The minority report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, found on pages 110 and 111 of the printed proceedings of that year, quotes the law upon the subject. This appears so conclusive, that I cannot resist the inclination to renew a consideration of this decision, notwithstanding my high appreciation of the ability and discretion of its author. It had never before occurred to me that the personal jurisdiction of lodges could be divisible ; on the contrary I have invariably entertained the opinion that such jurisdiction, like other rights of the lodge, were positive. The law which has been referred to expressly provides that a rejected petitioner for the degrees may renew his application to the *same*

lodge only which rejected him ; we cannot therefore, see by what reasoning, under the law, that the Grand Lodge assumes that such well defined jurisdiction can be shared by another lodge, if it is true that the provisions of this law confines exclusive control of rejected material to the rejecting lodges.

The "Committee on Grand Master's address" were a little "bothered" to know how to distribute that portion of the work, and say that :

The matter then under consideration is again presented in the address of Grand Master Gurney for reconsideration, and should of course go to the present Committee on Jurisprudence ; but it so happens that P. G. M. Robbins, who rendered the decision in question, is chairman of that committee, and if the subject shall be so referred, Bro. Robbins will be called upon to report upon the correctness of his own decree. To make matters still more interesting, it also happens that the author of the minority report, dissenting from the decision of Bro. Robbins, is a member of the Committee on Jurisprudence, and chairman of committee called upon to make suitable reference of the subject. And just here we become slightly embarrassed.

Whether our Grand Master was fully satisfied that M. W. Bro. Robbins and the brother who disagreed with his decision could come together and agree to dwell in unity, or whether he instituted this dilemma with evil intent, is not the province of your committee to guess; but it would seem the Grand Master must have anticipated that the consideration of the point at issue by the usual committee as now constituted, would severely test the well known modesty of P. G. M. Robbins, and exhaust the limited stock of the same characteristic possessed by the "dissenter."

But be that as it may, your committee, in all seriousness, feel that the question presented by the Grand Master is of more than ordinary importance to the welfare of every lodge in our State, for reasons which it would not become us at this time to state. But in view of the peculiar facts recited, your committee would fraternally recommend that so much of the Grand Master's address here alluded to be referred to a special committee of three, to report at this Grand Communication.

The special committee reported elaborately on the subject confirming Grand Master Robbins' decision, viz :

"When a candidate, after being rejected by one lodge, removes into the jurisdiction of another, neither lodge can receive his petition without first obtaining the consent of the other."

And adding in explanation the following quotations and remarks :

The *personal* jurisdiction of a Lodge shall extend over all its members * * * wherever they may reside, and over its unfinished work, and rejected material wherever they may be dispersed.

This section, as will be seen, is but a definition of *personal* jurisdiction, which, by its terms, distinctly recognizes the divisibility of jurisdiction.

Section 2, Article XII, reads as follows:

No Lodge shall knowingly receive a petition from, or initiate, a candidate * * * who has not been an actual resident of the State of

Illinois at least twelve months next preceding the date of such petition, *and of the jurisdiction* of the Lodge at least six months next preceding the date of such petition * * * .

The jurisdiction here referred to is manifestly the *territorial* jurisdiction, and in this connection we quote Section 4, Article II, as follows:

"By the Masonic residence of an applicant is meant a permanent settled domicile, or fixed abode from choice * * * ."

Thus we conclude, that while one Lodge may have and retain the *personal* jurisdiction, another Lodge may have the territorial jurisdiction, neither of which may be violated or infringed upon without consent, while the *territorial* jurisdiction over a person who has never petitioned a Lodge, may be lost by the removal of such person into another jurisdiction, but as long as such person has a fixed abode, a permanent domicile, the territorial jurisdiction of the Lodge at that place can not be taken from such Lodge without its consent.

Brother Robbins, from Committee on Correspondence, made the following special report on NEW SOUTH WALES, viz:

Your Committee on Masonic Correspondence, to whom was referred the question of extending recognition to the Grand Lodge of New South Wales, beg leave to report, that it appears that that Grand Lodge was formed by less than a majority of the Lodges in the Colony, and although it has received some accessions since, it does not yet command the allegiance of a majority of the Lodges. Your committee can not, therefore, recommend recognition at this time; but does recommend that the question be again referred to the Committee on Masonic Correspondence, to be reported upon next year.

Which claims our hearty approval.

Our space forbids, and we must desist from, comment on much other interesting matter contained in these proceedings; except as to a brief notice of Brother Joseph Robbins' very instructive and characteristic report on

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Here arises the only "unpleasantness" experienced in conning the record of useful and enjoyable, for the most part, matter contained in this volume of minutes. We think, he got a little *previous* to the question in his remarks on Grand Master Armstrong's address, in that portion relating to the overture of a few enthusiastic Brethren, asking a special convocation to consider the subject, and discuss the propriety of establishing, under Grand Lodge patronage, an *endowment association*. We think he has, in the manner and word of his comment, done injustice to our Grand Master as well as intimated a low estimate of the intelligence, and true masonic wisdom of our Grand Lodge. Grand Master Armstrong, while refusing the request to call an extra session of the Grand Lodge for such purpose, merely referred the subject (with polite words, in proper deference to the earnest motives, however mistaken, of the applicants) to the Grand Legislative Body where it be-

longed, and where the suggested innovation was properly considered and almost unanimously disapproved. This result, we doubt not, the Grand Master fully anticipated and we know heartily concurred in this action. Thus premising we quote the objectionable references alluded to, viz:

The childlike confidence of Grand Master Armstrong in the equanimity of his Grand Lodge when, before reporting the following, he congratulated that body that no questions of a character calculated to disturb the harmony of its deliberations would probably arise, does not seem to have been misplaced:

"I received in July last, from Washington Lodge No. 36, a request in which seven other Lodges joined, to call a special communication of the Grand Lodge to consider a matter that I thought could be disposed of at our regular communication and suffer no detriment by the delay, therefore declined. The purpose that they have in view, as indicated in their communication to me, "is to provide an endowment to the M. M. degree to be paid to the heirs of all Master Masons who participate in the scheme." The object is laudable and praiseworthy, and as a committee has been appointed by Washington Lodge to bring it to your attention, I trust you will give to the matter such consideration as its importance demands."

If for Masonry to become *felo-de-se* is "laudable and praiseworthy," we have some curiosity to know what, from the Alabama standpoint, must be the character of a question calculated to disturb the harmony of the Grand Lodge!

The committee of eminent brethren to which the subject was referred, although appointed at the very outset of the session, does not seem to have had time to find out whether, with Washington Lodge and her seven sisters, it would immortalize itself by its devotion to *speculative* Masonry, and on motion of one of its members was given a year for cogitation. Should this eventuate in affirmative action, we can imagine the ghost of the "Grand Lodge of Ontario" musing on the emptiness of belated sympathy and repeating those saddest of words:

"It might have been."

"Fine feathers do not make birds," and slashing rhetoric, though *fine*, is not always just and properly discriminating in its thrusts. He reviews the Alabama proceedings of 1878—58th Annual Report—in other respects very kindly and acceptably.

His Report, reviews the proceedings of 52 Grand Lodges, and, as we have already intimated, is a full and very able deliverance. We shall avail ourselves of many of his thoughtful suggestions, in treating of other jurisdictions, but can now only afford space for what we have already said of, and copied from, the voluminous report furnished by our good Brother of Illinois.

GRAND OFFICERS, 1879.

M. W. Bro, Theodore T, Gurney, (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. John F. Burrill, (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Whole number of Lodges.....691(?)

INDIANA, 1880.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Indiana met in annual communication—its sixty-third annual meeting—at Indianapolis, Tuesday, May 25th, A. D. 1880. Present—M. W. Grand Master Bellamy S. Sutton, in the Grand East, with *all* Grand Officers at stations, and the Representatives of 487 constituent Lodges. No Grand Representatives noticed as present.

The debt cloud, to which we have, in former, alluded. still hangs portentious over this large and otherwise potential jurisdiction. Its burden is perceptibly lessening, however, and we are gratified to note, not only the gradual extinction of the debt—about $9,300 of debt having been paid off during the preceding year, in additlon to the carrying of a similar amount of interest—but evidences also that this evil is working for eventual good, in enabling the Grand Lodge to throw off unworthy material, incapable under adversity of longer disguising their faithlessness, and showing by acts, near akin to open rebellion, their want of fortitude, prudence, and justice. "Charters surrendered," and "charters revoked," of both of which several instances are recorded, indicate severally the weak and the unworthy constituents. When this "weeding out" shall have been completed, as it soon must be, then will adversity have worked its ultimate effects of purification and establishment, and the silver lining, already tinging their clouds of trial, with promise of returning prosperity, will spread and increase 'till all darkness and perplexity shall have disappeared. The lesson is one so often taught, and impressed upon us, that it seems a wonder we will not or can not learn it—AVOID DEBT! even for grand Masonic Temples!

The annual address of Grand Master Sutton is interesting, and, indeed, we may remark the same of the general proceedings of this communication, though from necessity, as intimated above, much of their work was directed towards their own peculiar necessities.

The Grand Master, however, finds time, and seeks occasion, to say some good things of the Fraternity generally, (but unfortunately designates it as "*our Order*," an expression amounting almost to a *profanation* with us,) and also alludes to the progress of the age in a comprehensive way, intimating, as we construe it, (if not so intended it could very properly have been directly alleged) that masonry was a prime factor in the developments cited, viz:

> The enterprises of our age are more marvellous than any tale in the Arabian Nights. The searches in the polar seas, and the tropical mysteries of interior Africa; the disemboweling of the unheard of treasures of the earth on our western coast; the instantaneous growth of cities and States; the marvelous bridges; the tunneling of the Alps, and the Suez Canal. These are some of the miracles of our day that indicate that the human intellect is capable of indefinite and endless tri-

umphs. Nor can I refrain from noting the universal spread of liberal ideas among mankind. France has surprised the world by the successful inauguration of a conservative and stable republic. Germany, once the stronghold of petty despots, has become a constitutional empire. Russia has greatly advanced from a state of semi-barbarism, and some of the older portions of Asia are introducing modern ideas and reforms. To us to-day it is a matter of peculiar gratification that the members of our Order have always been in the very vanguard of human progress, and that Masons have ever been the heroes, and if needs be, the martyrs, of the advanced movements of the world. Our aim has ever been the advancement and amelioration of mankind.

He mentions a discourteous reply from the W. M. of one of the Lodges yielding up charters, possibly to avoid responsibility for the debt of the GRAND LODGE, although in this case a local reason was alleged, and shows up the Lodge thus:

This, it seems to me, is a case requiring merited condemnation. A Lodge voluntarily voting itself out of existence, "On account of financial embarrassment and a want of interest in the cause of Masonry." Possessing all the necessary implements to maintain a lodge—property in abundance; money in the treasury; stock in a Masonic Hall Association and no debts—at least none reported; appointing the Worshipful Master upon a committee to sell their stock; another committee to sell their furniture, etc. Gathering all the spoils together they make a divide; the Grand Lodge—the rightful heir—gets nothing. Shame upon such Masonry! Let the seal of condemnation go forth from this Grand Lodge, and in such tones as not to be misunderstood!

The following decision indicates that the law of Indiana differs essentially from that of Alabama, and very many other jurisdictions on the matter of resignations, viz:

Question 13.—Can an officer of a lodge, regularly elected, resign his office before the expiration of the term for which he was elected?
Answer.—Yes. See Sec. 4, Art. VI.

In another decision he gives a long *lease* to "dimits," as thus:

Question 14.—How long will a certificate of dimit run before it expires?
Answer.—There is no limit. It remains good until canceled by due process of law, or until deposited with a lodge on admission to membership.

We give his concluding remarks for the sake of its eloquent *picture* lesson, viz:

As I now pass from this office with which your confidence and partiality invested me, you will indulge me in one final word. In whatever position we are placed in our noble Order, or in any department of life, let our aim be to do our duty well; then only can we hope for the great award.
In one of the galleries of London there is a noble painting, that rep-

resents a dark hill, rising against the evening sky, which shines through a few thin pines.

Along a road on the hillside four squires bear a dying knight, a man past middle age. One, behind, carries his helmet, and another leads his horse. The head and countenance of the knight is noble, telling of many a battle, and ever for the right. The last battle has doubtless been gained, for we may read victory, as well as peace, in the dying look. The party has just reached the edge of a steep descent, from which you can see the valley below, with the last of the harvest just being reaped, while the shocks stand all about in the field.

Thus, my brethren, may we live and act, that when, like this old knight, our day shall set in the storm of battle, it may leave behind the glory of a good name, and we be gathered to our fathers, like shocks of corn fully ripe, and ready for the garner of God.

Fifty Chartered Lodges petitioned the Grand Lodge "to amend the by-laws of the Grand Lodge so as to allow the Grand Master to issue dispensations to such lodges as may petition the same, to occupy a hall with other secret and kindred Orders." This petition, strange to say, was "laid on the table;" was this a proper masonic response to a respectful petition? We trow not, nor can we assent to any such parliamentary dodge to avoid an instructive, though possibly disagreeable, answer to any masonic question or petition!

The Grand Lodge adopted an amendment to its By-Laws, requiring only one ballot "for the three degrees," although the change proposed was earnestly objected to by the minority as an innovation on rules existing for sixty-three years which they considered in the light of a Landmark, &c.

In view of the burden of their debt and consequent necessity for economy, it was proposed, and we believe determined, to skip a year in Grand Lodge communications, and thus save $10,000 of annual expenses.

THE COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE

acknowledge receipt of numerous Reports from other Grand Lodges, including the Alabama proceedings of 1879, but make no report, economy ruling out that expense also.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Calvin W. Prather..... .....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. William H. Smythe (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Whole number of Lodges—Chartered, 516; U. D. 3.

INDIAN TERRITORY, 1879.

The FIFTH annual communication was held in the town of Eufaula—Creek Nation—November 4th, A. D. 1879; present, J. S. Murrow, Grand

Master. Several Grand Representatives, and *ten* constituent Lodges represented.

The Grand Master's address is a pleasant and creditable review of the masonic incidents of the year and discusses frankly and thoughtfully the needs of the jurisdiction, and their short-comings as well. RITUALISTIC WORK, and the want of uniformity therein, indeed gross neglect of the science in most of their Lodges, is commented upon, and an earnest appeal urged for reform and improvement in that respect. He discusses the situation abroad, and gives encouraging assurances of kindly and friendly relations with other jurisdictions. Declines a re-election, because of onerous *missionary* duties preventing a proper allotment of time to his official masonic work. We give his

CONCLUSION.

I beg pardon for the length of this address. I have not forgotten the admonition of the Grand Secretary to think of the printing bill, but I have been so anxious over the welfare of Masonry in our Territory and have seen so much that I think you ought to know that I have transcended proper limits.

We are reminded that several who were prominent and useful in the organization of this Grand Lodge, brief the period has been, are not with us to-day. McPherson, R. P. Jones and Slover are at work elsewhere. J. B. Jones, Bond and Vann are in the grave. We have taken their places; others will soon succeed us, for we, like them, shall be gone. Let us think of them with affection, emulate their good deeds, and be ready when our day's work is done. Brethren, please accept my sincere gratitude for the many honors you have conferred upon me. Most cheerfully have I served to the best of my ability in the stations you have assigned me. I shall still continue to do what I can for you and Masonry. My greatest regret is that I have not been able to meet the responsibilities of the dignified and honorable position of Grand Master. Long since I determined to decline a re-election, and will gladly place the gavel in the hands of my successor.

The Lodge work, relating mostly to local necessities, was well and speedily dispatched.

The Report on

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE,

By Bro. Hogue, (we judge, though it is not signed,) is interesting and creditable, notwithstanding the following *queer* apology for its (supposed) demerits, viz:

As usual this report has been written under difficulties.

The Chairman begged off from serving because of pressing business engagements and weak eyes. Another member of the Committee "married a wife" and therefore he must needs be excused.

Brother Hogue reviewed the Proceedings of several Grand Lodges; these are the only ones well prepared. Poor "Hobson" had the choice of trying to give "the aborigines" a glimpse of the doings of the breth-

ren elsewhere or let this report go by default. He has thus tried to make a bow to a goodly number of Grand Bodies but his time has been too limited and other duties too pressing to admit of much style or care in these short and hasty respects.

Alabama, for the first time, we think, in these reports, receives friendly notice in a pleasant but short review of our proceedings of 1878. He commends Grand Master Armstrong's address, and the proceedings generally.

He corrects? the writer for speaking "*old*" words of P. Grand Master McPherson, and wonders what "his young wife" will say of it! If P. G. Master McPherson is really old, as we think he is, (or are we mistaken in that?) then the young wife, in the very *nature* of the case, will not make *him* any *younger*. We almost know how it is ourself.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. P. J. Byrne.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. W. A. McBride (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Whole number of Lodges—Chartered 12 ; U. D. 1.

IOWA, 1879.

Grand Lodge met in its 36th Grand annual communication, in the city of Dubuque, on Tuesday the 3d day of June, A. D. 1879. Grand Master Jeremiah M. Wilson presiding, and two hundred and eighty-two constituent Lodges represented.

The Brethren having been called to order by the Grand Master, the pleasant incident of an eloquent address of welcome (to Dubuque) to the Grand Lodge, was delivered by P. G. Master Guilbert, tendering her "the Masonic hospitalities of the Queen City of Iowa," which was pleasantly and appropriately responded to by the Grand Master.

The Grand Lodge is still a ROVER, electing to hold her annual meetings by rotation in cities other than that of her nominal official abode. Iowa City, we believe, is *headquarters* for her Grand Secretary, Library and Archives. This reception address afforded the welcoming orator an opportunity to compare notes of this and preceding communications in the same city, say in 1848 and 1861, and hence in a portion of his address was pleasantly historical, in contrasting present conditions with those of the past.

The Grand Master's annual address is excellent—full, sufficiently concise, and very explicit wherever either caution or reprimand seemed to be required or deserved.

He had issued *nine* dispensations for new Lodges. Reports favorably of "our relations with sister Grand Lodges"—notes the fact of unusual mortality among Grand Lodge members during the past year, a Past

Grand Master, a Past Senior Grand Warden and two Past Junior Grand Wardens having been called from labor by death.

He notices complainingly that a "*constitution and statutes unauthorized by the Grand Lodge or its officers,*" had been issued to the Masters of Lodges in that jurisdiction, but does not name the offender—an offence it was of "portent most grave." He answered many questions, but gives none of his decisions, as all questions asked were answered by reference to former decisions of his predecessors. He recommends, however, "a digest of Masonic Law," to save the labor of searching out the law and rulings of the Grand Lodge, as now scattered through the *twelve* years of proceedings, and the original compilation of 1866.

We have often alluded, in terms of high praise, to the Reports and record work of R. W. Grand Secretary Brother PARVIN, and would not again repeat the praise, though this his latest report, is well deserving of special commendation, were it not that we have seen, and very regretfully too, a disposition on the part of a restless, if not jealous, minority of his co-workers to hamper his genius by refusing the needed appropriations for the work of preparing and publishing his inimitable reports. The insinuations of extravagance, etc., thus suggested, were fully inquired into by committees of the Grand Lodge and their reports fully vindicate Brother Parvin, the inquiry eliciting from them expressions of gratitude and confidence. Thus his own Brethren are as well satisfied with his work as are those of other jurisdictions, whose appreciation thereof is well, and not extravagantly, expressed, in the following compliment from Brother J. W. WOODHULL—WISCONSIN—viz:

"The report (1878) of the R. W. Brother Theodore S. Parvin, Grand Secretary, is the most complete of any we have on file. Since 1844, thirty-four years, this noble brother has *faithfully performed far more than his duty.* No stone has been left unturned when the result would be good to his Grand Lodge. It would be well for the brethren of Iowa to look back over these thirty-four years of arduous service and call to mind the fact that the position occupied by the Grand Lodge of Iowa at the present time *is mostly due to the fraternal labors of their Grand Secretary;* and this, too, with but a mere pittance, which may be called a remuneration. But why speak of remuneration? The Grand Lodge of Iowa can never remunerate him for his noble, self-sacrificing services. They may give him all the money he may need; they may literally cover him over with favors; they may proclaim him as their noblest, best friend; they may call upon Heaven to shower upon him its choicest blessings—and yet the Brethren of Iowa will be his debtors. These thirty-four years have been years of toil and anxiety; they have been full of reverses, with joys and sorrows; sickness and health have alternately held sway; and during all this time the Grand Secretary has stood firmly at the helm, met every storm with a brave heart and giant hand, and to-day he sees the noble craft moving over the tide of time, too strong to be broken by the winds of adversity, and too powerful to be swamped by the waves of ignorance and superstition. 'Brave old heart,' live on!"

Brother Parvin reports as Grand Secretary and Grand Librarian. His obituaries of deceased worthies of his own and sister jurisdictions, appropriate as well as instructive, indeed all of his pen and brain work give token of a man of very superior attainments, and abounding in industry and method. We touch our hat to him in humble obeisance as to a Mason *sans* reproach.

We regret to be compelled to notice so briefly proceedings so full of interest and captivating deliverances.

The Grand Oration this year was by Brother Lucien C. Blanchard, Grand Orator, and we do not see that his "coming from the busy quarries, or the active duties of business life," has at all lessened the importance or interest of his pleasant and thoughtful address. It is a very appropriate exemplification and enforcement of the rights and duties of Masons. We quote a portion of his peroration:

In these brief remarks I have not sought to explore unknown fields, or even to present new thoughts, If little of originality is found in them, it must be remembered that Masonry is not new. It reaches its soft hand of love and charity down to us from the centuries of the buried past, whose records are obscured behind the dim twilight of tradition. We clasp the invisible hands of those whose forms and history are covered by the mists of darkness of prehistoric times.

Attention has been directed to some of the dangers that may beset us. We are aware that there are persons of social and moral standing who seek to level the walls of our noble edifice. From them we have little to fear. We have more cause for alarm within the temple.

It is said that there is found in the rugged mountains of the far West a most beautiful lake, whose waters of unfathomable depth are surrounded on every side by perpendicular rocks, rising thousands of feet above the surface below. Storms may come, winds may blow, but they disturb not its rest. The fierce tornado which sweeps across the plain, destroying everything in its course, fails to produce even a ripple upon its ever-calm waters. Thus securely shall our Order be guarded if we observe a strict adherence to the cardinal virtues. If our bond of union is not relaxed; if ignorance and indolence are alike discouraged; if fidelity shall guard the outer gates; if the spirit of brotherly love shall animate each heart, and we teach and practice sound doctrine, these shall be the walls that shall guard us from the criticisms and attacks from what source soever, as securely and as everlastingly as are the waters of the mountain lake. Then, too, will the mists that hover over us be cleared away, and it may be said, "Peace has been within our walls, and prosperity within our palaces."

No report on correspondence.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Brother Albert C. Abbott.....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother Theodore S. Parvin (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Whole number of working Lodges.....358

KANSAS, 1879.

Grand Lodge met, in its 24th grand annual communication, at the City of Leavenworth, on the 15th of October, A. D. 1879, with a good attendance of Grand Lodge constituents, including Representatives from one hundred and ten (of their 173) working Lodges. We observe that Past Masters are recognized as members of this Grand Body, and that the minutes do not mention the presence of any GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

M. W. Grand Lodge, having been opened in AMPLE FORM by Grand Master E. D. Hillyer, his annual address followed as the first business in order after the examination of credentials. The address is a good executive message and confined almost entirely to topics of local administration and incident.

After speaking feelingly of the death of a venerable and greatly esteemed Brother, R. W. John A. Chase, he says very aptly and impressively:

Thus the old landmarks pass away, one by one, admonishing us that if the work drawn upon the trestle-board of our lives for each one of us to do is done at all, it must be done quickly, for surely the Night cometh wherein no man can work.

He issued dispensations for the formation of nine new Lodges. The charter of one Lodge was revoked and two charters were surrendered during the year.

He is concerned about the rapid increase of non affiliates, calls them "masonic drones," and urges that "some definite action be taken in the premises." (Quere?--Isn't non action the *best action*. Let them severely alone, by treating them as *tried* and *rejected* material, is our solution of the problem.)

He recommends a change of time for annual communications, the autumnal months being unsuited "to farmers, mechanics and business men generally," and suggests "the 3d Wednesday of February instead of October." This proposition was, by recommendation of the committee on jurisprudence, referred to the Lodges for approval.

He speaks very considerately and fully of relations with other Grand Bodies, but as his remarks on this topic are supplemented by an able SPECIAL REPORT from Brother JOHN H. BROWN, Chairman of Committee on Correspondence, we shall take from that adopted report such views as seem to us apposite to our purpose, viz:

The right of the Grand Lodge of Quebec which has been invaded and denied, is that of "exclusive jurisdiction, coterminous with political boundaries." This right which has been gradually evolved during the last century and a half, although dating farther back in its origin, has been accepted as a rule of law, natural, just, and consequently not to

be altered or abrogated. All Grand Lodges and all Masons of North America, being a majority of the Masons in the world, receive this law, and are governed by it and its benign protection is invoked, its formula used as a talisman, by most foreign Grand Bodies whenever it suits their self-interest to so do, thus showing that they perceive so much justice in it as to make it the strongest bulwark of their authority, except when they are invading the rights of another, as too often happens, in which case they desire nought of it, and hasten to revive that shadow of a weak and divided authority called "concurrent jurisdiction." The ill effects of a concurrent jurisdiction are seen in the bickerings of German Grand Bodies and most forcibly in the case of Quebec.

We have a deep interest in the controversy now waging between the Grand Lodges of Quebec and Scotland, for the reasons just stated, and we are pained to observe the apparently unnecessary delay of an adjustment between the parties. It is a question which, by virtue of its involving the principles we have given above, becomes of national importance and every Grand Lodge on the continent is concerned in the ultimate outcome of the matter.

* * * * * * * * * * * *

The Committee in their report last year gave a complete history of the origin and progress of the difficulty up to that date, and your Committee do not deem it necessary to go over the same ground again at this time, but merely present what has since occurred with recommendations concerning the action which suggests itself as proper for our Lodge to take under these premises, in order to do justice to both parties and vindicate the principles of law and comity now attacked.

At this time last year many leading Masons entertained the hope that wise and good judgment would characterize the acts of the parties and especially that something would be done by the Grand Lodge of Scotland in the way of repairing the breach so unfortunately made by them, but it appears that the division is growing wider, and the Grand Officers on each side more bitter and determined as is plainly seen from the vigorous reports sent in to their respective Grand Lodges.

If the Grand Lodge of Scotland has the right to enter the territorial jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Quebec and warrant new Lodges in utter disregard of Masonic law and comity, such as should be observed among all Grand Lodges, and further declare the Masonic Territory unoccupied, of a certainty they may claim the same right to enter the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Kansas, here to set up Masonic homes for their offspring. The argument holds as good in one case as in the other.

We are authoritatively informed that this bantling, like an incubus clinging to the honest Craftsmen of Quebec, hesitate not to hunt up and use all the rejected material they can find. A man who has been blackballed in any regular Lodge, no matter where he may have resided and been rejected, or how old or young he may be, will, on application, be received and the degrees conferred for a nominal sum, just what the candidate is willing to pay, and in order to accommodate they will confer the three degrees in one night; in addition to all such insults, they bid open defiance to the lawfully constituted authority of the country.

* * * * * * * * * * * *

Notwithstanding all the unlawful acts of the Grand Lodge of Scotland and her offshoot at Montreal, and the consequent menace to our cherished principles, we do not now feel inclined to follow the natural

course of expressing rebuke by declaring that we will no longer hold Masonic intercourse with Masons hailing from the Grand Lodge of Scotland. Our inclinations have always tended to bias us in favor of this venerable Supreme Body, hoary as it is with the frosts of many years, and whose Masonic history extends so far back into the Dark Ages, a monument of the Past and a guide for the Present, she has often aided us in steering our Masonic bark over the rough sea of strife and persecution. Yet while we remember all this with pride and profound gratitude, we must not forget that we are Masons, bound by the same Masonic tie, governed by a Grand Body possessed of the same supreme power and authority as the Grand Lodge of Scotland, governed likewise by recognized rules of comity which amount to laws, and that we are bound to see to it that neither these nor the dignity of our Grand Lodge are infringed upon by any other power, whether legitimate or illegitimate.

In the resolutions adopted they did *not* declare non-intercourse with SCOTLAND, but did forbid Masonic recognition in Kansas to all persons hailing from Lodges not recognized as regular by the GRAND LODGE OF QUEBEC, and so certified by that authority.

Bro. Grand Secretary is quite annoyed by clumsey, delayed, and otherwise irregular reports from subordidate lodges, an epidemic not altogether peculiar to Kansas, but few Grand Officials have noticed and more pointedly, yet non-offensively, rebuked the offense, than he of whom we now write, among other hits at Secretaries he says :

* * * * * * * I say nothing of the mistakes made in the returns sent in, such as seals omitted, names of officers invisible, errors in addition, and eight-to-seven counting on membership (sometimes to the disadvantage of the Secretary's own Lodge,) or of the members who disappear from the rolls as mysteriously as stars from the firmament, and others which appear to have sprung into Lodge membership, as Minerva was born, full-grown, armed and equipped, Master Masons; all these things and many others which pass human comprehension we are willing to forgive if they will only *get the report in*, in *any* shape, *early* and try to keep cash accounts straight. And I believe that no charge of ill-nature can be laid against me for thus pointedly calling attention of the brethren to these matters, for I do it only to bring about a reform which can not fail to benefit the whole Craft in general, and these careless Lodges in particular, setting down naught in malice. The same fatherly advice which I would give to a son doing business in the outside world I offer to our friends, the Secretaries, here: "Be always prompt and obliging."

Bro. Albert Pike S. G. Commander made a second visit to Kansas and was again received and welcomed by the Grand Lodge with suitable honors.

The formal unveiling of the monument dedicated to the memory of their first M. W. Grand Master Richard Ridgeway Rees, added a pleasant ceremonial episode to the work of the Grand Lodge, and this was

the finishing *blow*, (followed by a very interesting address) by the M. W. Grand Master, who said and did as follows :

"Brother Grand Architect, having full confidence in your skill in the Royal Art, it remains with me now to finish the work."

The Grand Master then descended to the monument, and with the Gavel struck it three times, and said :

"This is *true* work—*Square* work—just such work as was ordered for the Masons of Kansas, and in the name of the Institution of Ancient Free and Accepted Masonry, and by the authority of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Kansas I now solemnly dedicate this Cenotaph to the memory of M. W. Richard Ridgeway Rees, our Past Grand Master. Brethren, you will salute it accordingly."

Bro. Rrown's report on

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Is very full, reviewing most of the American Grand Lodge reports and giving ample intelligence from abroad. Its good work—a savory dish of literary *tit bits*, well Browned and dished to our taste exactly.

He reviews Alabama proceedings, presented in our report of 1878—58th annual—and gives us, both in space and comment, due consideration.

He speaks in complimentary terms of (P.) G. M. Armstrong's address of that year and quotes from it.

Alludes to the Committee on Work as having reported on the three degrees, and takes it "that there must have been an exemplification of the work," &c., not in that sense and manner, as we *take* your meaning, Brother. The work is only rehearsed before the Grand Lodge, there being no candidate present; but a supposed or imaginary one; everything is said that ought to be said in the work, and the members are instructed how to apply it to, and treat, a candidate when conferring the degrees.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Joseph D. McCleverty.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Jno. H. Brown (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Whole number of working Lodges..... 173.

KENTUCKY, 1879.

The Grand Lodge held its 80th grand annual communication, in Louisville, on Tuesday, October 21st, A. D. 1879.

Present, M. W. Thomas S. Petit, Grand Master, with a full attendance of Past Grand Officers and Grand Representatives, among whom we are gratified to note the presence of the Alabama representative, Bro. Charles Tilden, and a proper number of Lodge representatives

(tho' Bro. Grand Secretary does not favor us with any direct information of the representation from constituent Lodges).

We have conned these proceedings with some care, and no little interest, for the work of this Grand Lodge and its experiences, especially in its labors and triumphs *anent* their noble enterprise of the "WIDOWS and ORPHANS HOME" establishment, have always, during our career as correspondent, elicited a hearty sympathy and cordial approval. After due consideration we can discover no incident, suggestive of adverse criticism in their general work, and as the Grand Master's address is full and able, representing his own enlarged views, and alike, as a general remark, indicating the course of Grand Lodge legislation, we shall quote freely from it as a sufficiently satisfactory notice of their doings during four days of diligent labor.

He says of Masonry, (general and particular):

It has been well said that Masonry has lived through the centuries past because it is founded upon the moral law—those eternal principles of right and wrong antecedent to positive precept. It lives in the present, because human hearts everywhere respond, as with an electic touch, to its beautiful lessons on human life. Teaching by example rather than precept, it has a vital power far greater than any mere professions of creeds and doctrines. Silent and unseen as the waters of Lethe the stream of Masonic influence flows down the channels of Time into the great ocean of Eternity. It grows because friendship is its object, true manhood its goal, mutual assistance its inculcated duty, brotherly love its ruling passion, Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice its cardinal principles. Thus founded it will continue to live and grow until the end of earthly existence, when, as the result of its sublime teachings, it is to be hoped it will have done its proportionate share in regenerating humanity, and will present to the Great Architect of the Universe its full measure of fashioned materials, polished and fitted for their appropriate positions in the Eternal Temple.

The year just closing has been one of great importance to the Craft, and without attempting any eloquent allusions to the mysteries and symbols of Masonry I shall content myself with directing your attention at once to the practical workings of the Brotherhood within this jurisdiction during the time I have had the distinguished honor to preside over its deliberations.

CONFLICT OF JURISDICTIONS

A legacy from the last Grand Lodge to your Grand Master, of very great importance to the Craft, is the principles involved in the case of S. M. Toliver *vs.* King Solomon Lodge No. 94, at Gallatin, Tennessee. It necessitated a long controversy between the worthy and talented Grand Master of that State and myself, and to which I respectfully refer in the appendix of this address. Succinctly stated the case is this: Toliver, a member of Simpson Benevolent Lodge No. 177, at Franklin, Simpson county, Kentucky, while sojourning in Gallatin, Tennessee, a few miles distant from Franklin, was charged with an unmasonic act. The Lodge at Gallatin took up the charges, after Toliver removed from

their jurisdiction, and expelled him, although this Grand Lodge had requested said Lodge to discontinue the proceedings and refer them to his own Lodge for trial. (See printed proceedings 1878, page 47, paragraph 4) Toliver, feeling himself aggrieved by the action of King Solomon Lodge No. 94, appealed to your Grand Master, who directed that his own Lodge, where similar charges were pending, should proceed with the hearing of his case without regard to the decision of Lodge No. 94. This makes a bold and broad issue, and had as well be settled now as at any other time. In emphatically denying the jurisdiction of the Tennessee Lodge I feel there is a connection existing between a Lodge and its members which no other Lodge has power to sever or annul, and should not have. Grant it and you but give a Lodge pewer to suspend or expel the membership of a rival Lodge, and blot it forever from existence. Mitchell, in his Common Law of Masonry, page 206, lays down the true doctrine. He sas :

"Masons holding membership in other jurisdictions must be tried where they hold membership ; but it is the duty of any Lodge to prefer charges, have them anthenticated and forwarded to his Lodge. Not so with non-affiliated Masons : they must be tried by the nearest Lodge."

It will be observed, in the correspondence, that Grand Master Conner admits the doctrine to some extent, but errs, as I think, in supposing that it is or can be affected by change of residence or length of time a member may be bodily absent from the jurisdiction of his Lodge. So long as he holds membership in it it is his *Masonic home*, and I care not how long he may reside in another Lodge jurisdiction ; and whatever part he may take in its "work or processions" is but the *courtesy* extended to a visitor. Your Grand Master is aware that the offense with which Toliver is charged is one against the whole body of Masonry, and not simply against the Lodge in whose jurisdiction he chanced to be when the act was perpetrated. But be it so. Where better could a fair trial be had, obligated as we are, than in his own Lodge, with all the evidence easily accessible? I can never assent to the doctrine that a Lodge in another State can take up and expel or suspend, and turn a brother out of his own Lodge, so long as I have control over this jurisdiction. King Solomon Lodge No. 94, and Simpson Benevolent Lodge No. 177, being only a short distance apart I endeavored to secure a hearing for Toliver in his own Lodge on the more pleasing ground of "courtesy" between the jurisdictions ; but failing in this my efforts were as indicated above, and I submit to the disinterested judgment of all Masonic jurisconsults whether the comity of Freemasonry was fairly regarded in this case, when his own Lodge—one of the oldest and best in Kentucky—was first ready to deal with the offender and had appointed a committee to proceed to Gallatin (Tenn.) to procure all evidence.

He is opposed to suspensions for non-payment of dues without a formal trial, and approves the action of his Grand Lodge in adopting that rule as "eminently proper," and thinks it important "that a safeguard should be thrown around every brother who, in his absence or stringent poverty, is liable to be inflicted with this bitter penalty." He recommends a carefully prepared formula governing such trials looking as well to the interests of the Lodges and the rights of their members.

We fully concur with him in his views on this subject, and it is only necessary to point to the *aggregate* of suspensions for non-payment of dues, in all the Grand Jurisdictions, for the year 1879, about 23,000, to realize the extent complained of. How many of these *thousands* were (uncharitably !) cast out, for no greater offense than that of extreme poverty, who will ever know or inquire? We dislike to allude to this evil and always approach, as a distasteful duty, the record of such suspensions, when claiming our attention as reviewer.

He says of

GRAND LODGE REPRESENTATIVES.

Heartily approving the action of our Grand Lodge in opening correspondence through Representatives with other Grand Lodges throughout the world, I have authorized our zealous and intelligent brothers, Past Grand Masters Rob. Morris and Hiram Bassett, to select from the rolls of our Grand Lodge membership suitable persons for such appointments, reserving to myself in every case the final decision. Commissions have issued in accordance with such appointments, until we are now in correspondence, through Representatives, with a large proportion of the Grand Lodges—American and Foreign. The table of such appointments in our proceedings this year will show as well instructed and influential a set of Masons as the jurisdiction affords.

As to Finances, the following indicates the situation and the mistakes of previous years, viz :

The finances of the Grand Lodge should have its especial attention. Were it to do nothing else at this session except to correctly adjust its accounts, and provide ways and means whereby in future its expenses should not exceed its income, and the election of its officers, the time would be most valuably employed. A few years ago the Grand Lodge was wealthy, if not in opulence ; to-day, if not poverty-stricken, its circumstances are very much reduced.

* * * * * * * *

The proceedings of last year (page 47) show, contrary to usage, that a resolution was adopted authorizing the Grand Treasurer "to borrow such sum or sums as may be necessary to meet any deficiency in the treasury," and this, too, without consultation with any one, not even your Grand Master, and the full sum borrowed this year has been under the authority thus delegated. It is a dangerous power to confer on any officer, an infringement upon your Grand Master's prerogative, and I hope will never again be repeated.

He deprecates the necessity for large contributions from subordinates to support Grand Lodge expenses, and is disposed by all proper means to lessen the demand ; and in this connection suggestively enquires why it is necessary for the G. L. to pay *per diem* and *mileage* to representatives? saying, "if lodges wish to be represented, why not let them pay the expenses of the delegate?" We of Alabama get along very well

with the plan thus suggested, as has been the case for many years, if not always.

He says of the

WIDOWS AND ORPHANS' HOME AND INFIRMARY.

By reason of a recent amendment to the charter of the Widows and Orphans' Home and Infirmary the Grand Lodge now has representation in the directory, and as one of its *ex-officio* members I have attended some of its important meetings, and taken part in its proceedings. I am happy to say the institution is accomplishing much good, and in consequence is giving to the name of a Kentucky Mason that meed of praise which always follows that "charity which suffereth long and is kind;" . . . that "beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things." The work of building the Temple is well nigh completed, and but a nominal debt is resting on it. During the past year the grounds have been much improved, division fences have been put up, walks made. lawn sodded, and shade trees planted—everything done to make it indeed and in truth a *home for the widows and children of our deceased brethren.* What else? The building, a magnificent one, is completed, and a standing monument to our fraternity everywhere; one hundred and thirty to one hundred and forty loved ones of deceased brethren now sheltered there, and over one hundred more knocking at the door for admission; the structure capable of holding five hundred! Let me ask every Freemason in the State what "boots it" now if heretofore errors were committed in this great work. It is too late and we have too much money involved to turn our back upon this charity, if such indeed were the desire in any quarter. It seems to me the only questions to be solved are: What more is to be done, and how can we accomplish it on correct principles, uniting our brotherhood? The important work before us is to add to our endowment fund a sum large enough to enable the directors to fill the Home, and when filled support it. Is not this enough to stimulate all to renewed exertions? Where, "in dying," could we more enduringly "leave footprints on the sands of Time?"

His decisions are quite numerous, but good, and presented in such compact shape that we can afford to extract the major part of them, and will give also a reasonable objection made by the Committee on Jurisprudence to No. 11, promising that *our leaning* is towards the conclusion of the Grand Master, viz:

DECISIONS.

1. Master Masons holding membership in other jurisdictions must be tried where they hold membership. It is the duty of any Lodge to prefer charges, have them authenticated, and forwarded to the Lodge, and may *demand* a trial thereon. Non-affiliated Masons must be tried by the nearest Lodge.

2. If "clear of the books," no charges preferred, and Lodge grants a dimit, it is the duty of the Master to see that the order of the Lodge is carried out, and not aid in withholding it by reason of personal ill-will.

3. No petition for initiation or membership, once presented and re-

ceived by the Lodge, can be withdrawn except with unanimous consent of the Lodge, expressed through the ballot-box ; nor shall any petition be withdrawn after the committee shall have reported unfavorably.

4. St. Johns' days though regarded universally as holidays by the fraternity, do not preclude "work" being performed on those days.

5. A Lodge may "call off" and permit the "wives and daughters of Masons to witness installation of officers elect, and partake of banquet prepared."

6. Senior or Junior Wardens presiding are clothed, in every particular, with full powers of a Master.

7. Everything *done* in a Lodge, or promulgated officially, should be placed on record.

8. No Lodge has the right to "call off" from one day to another ; but one meeting of a Lodge can be held in one day.

9. All work done in the absence of the charter is illegal.

10. Last charter granted by the Grand Lodge is the legal charter. If lost charter be found it is null and void—the last one granted superseding all others.

11. Fraud and falsehood can not be countenanced by Masonry. It teaches honesty and truth. There is no obligation resting upon a brother to keep inviolate a falsehood, even communicated upon the "five points ;" and especially so when an injury is thus done a worthy brother ; nor is the brother so exposing such perfidy liable to be dealt with under Masonic law. * * * * * * *

18. It is a violation of State law, and contrary to all rules of decorum and common decency, for a brother to enter a Lodge room "carrying a weapon," and subjects him to rigid Masonic discipline.

20. The Grand Lodge *heirs* what may be left by a subordinate Lodge when the *demise* takes place.

21. While a "candidate must be physically able to give all the signs, dueguards," etc., yet it is "the internal and *not* the external qualifications of a man that Masonry regards." Held, near-sightedness does not exclude from membership.

23. When minutes of a preceding meeting are read, the only question is as to their correctness before approval. Should any action of the Lodge at next meeting be deemed unwise or impolitic, a motion to reconsider would be in order, according to parliamentary practice.

24. The Junior Warden is subject to charges during his term of office, and any brother deeming it his duty may prefer them.

26. A Master has a right to cast two votes in case of tie on all questions before his lodge, except in election of officers.

27. When a new trial is granted, the *status* of the accused is the same as before conviction.

28. Charges properly preferred by Junior Warden must be disposed of by Lodge itself.

29. If acquitted of a charge, no brother can be held for trial a second time for the same offense.

30. A Mason is subject to discipline if he willfully uses his power in the Lodge to prevent the fellowship of a dimitted brother on the simple ground of nationality.

31. A summons in trial of a brother to be legal must be by order of the Lodge, signed by the Secretary, with seal of Lodge attached. Should the Master also sign, it does not invalidate the summons.

32. The *nearest* Lodge must give consent to the establishment of a

Lodge, U. D., else the Grand Master is powerless in the premises, according to our constitution.

33. The moral law is a Freemason's great pattern, and the higher its standard the purer the Masonry. Simply a defect in the administration of the obligation is no justifiable plea to a specific charge of gross unmasonic conduct.

34. A Master has the right to congregate his Lodge whenever he deems an emergency requires, and of this he is the sole judge. Each member should be duly notified.

35. The right to visit a Lodge is not inherent; it is qualified; and the Master has the right to exclude for sufficient reasons.

37. Under our constitution *seven* members are required to do business. Anciently "*three* or more composed a Lodge of Master Masons."

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"The Committee on Jurisprudence" oppose decision No. 11, thus:

In regard to No. 11, your committee would most respectfully dissent from the ruling of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, although they feel deeply sensible of the delicate complications involved in such dissent. While we heartily approve and most cordially indorse the sentiment so tersely expressed by the Grand Master, that "*fraud and falsehood are not to be countenanced by masonry;*" "that to be good and true is the first lesson we are taught in masonry," and that "justice" is also one of our cardinal virtues, your committee nevertheless fail to see the propriety of engrafting any new restrictions touching one of our most vital "points of fellowship." Regarding the compact involved in this Landmark as a *voluntary* one, not empowering any brother to act as a self-constituted judge of the truth or falsity of the statements submitted, but only as a *voluntary custodian* of the subject-matter thus communicated, your committee hold that having thus voluntarily accepted the trust he must maintain it inviolate, under such stipulated restrictions only as are recognized by and incorporated with the Landmark itself.

We would respectfully submit that these well defined restrictions *being themselves restricted in their operation* are emphatically inclusive and necessarily render all other restrictions, however salutary, exclusive. It will readily occur to every Mason that were the door to such additional restrictions once opened, and such modifications and qualifications declared admissible, this most valuable "tenet of our profession" might be divested of all protecting power as a safeguard and shield, and become virtually inoperative save only perhaps to spread discord and confusion among the Craft. "Better suffer the ills we have than fly to those we know not of." Your committee therefore feel reluctantly compelled to recommend a reversal of this decision of our Most Worshipful Grand Master.

But we find we can not longer dwell upon the topics of the Grand Master's report, except to give a portion of his "conolusion," viz:

* * * * * * * * *

I have endeavored to teach that the true doctrine of our association is to furnish a retreat from the cares and dividing influences of the world, and to closely cement good and true men without reference to any particular set of opinions; that we are without any religious pre-

dilection. save the acknowledgment of that God who rules the Universe, which is the beginning of all faith. no matter how wide may be the ultimate differences; nor have we any influence in politics, except what requires us to be "peaceful citizens and loyal observers of the laws made by the country in which we reside;" and "although Freemasonry is indebted for its origin to its religious and philosophic character, yet charity in the ordinary adaptation of relief of the distressed, becomes, incidentally, a prominent feature in its teachings." That as our "First degree is intended as a representation of youth, the Second of manhood, and the Third of old age with its trials, its sufferings, and its final termination in death," so may we be admonished that "our time for toiling is now over; the opportunity to learn has passed away; the spiritual temple that we all have been striving to erect in our hearts is now nearly completed, and the wearied workman awaits only the word of the Grand Master of the Universe, to call him from the labors of earth to the eternal refreshments of heaven."

Brethren, beseeching you at all times to remember these inculcated lessons, as well as the fact that every human being has a claim upon our kindly offices, what better motto could we adopt through life than that of the celebrated Dr. Guthrie:

"To live for those who love us,
For those who know us true,
For the heaven that smiles above us
And waits our coming too;
For the cause that needs assistance,
For the wrongs that need resistance,
For the future in the distance,
For the good that we can do."

Added to the christian graces: Faith in God, Hope of Immortality, and Charity to all Mankind, surely our "trust is well founded," and we may confidently "fear no evil."

Bro. Robert Morris gives us a splendid Report on

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE,

Reviewing reports from nearly all of our American Grand Lodges, and not neglecting those of other nationalities. He notices appropriately the proceedings of our Grand Lodge for 1878—58th annual Report—and gives us ample space as well as fraternal greeting.

(P.) G. Master Armstrong's address is acceptably noticed both in remark and quotation, as is also the report of the Committee on "Suspensions, Expulsions and appeals." He notices the presence among the P. Grands of "the now venerable patriarch—David Clopton." How do you like that for OLD, Bro. Clopton? We, that is, Bro. Clopton and this writer, were school mates in *Georgy* "lang syne," and *I* think neither of us is old enough to have forgotten "young notions." Quite possibly Bro. Morris' OLD intimation, so pleasantly qualified with patriarchal veneration, suggestive as it is of an honorable position towards

posterity, may so smooth the "wrinkled front" of the insinuation as to cause Bro. C. more joy than regret at the mistake.

If he is like the writer he "won't count" (ala old Rip) age as long as the attentive ear conveys the clear tones of the "dinner bell" to a sound mind, duly regardful of the wants of a healthy stomach and a moderately clamorous appetite. We beg to assure Bro. Morris that Bro. Clopton would pass for a young man, decidedly so, when *looks* and *energy*, maugre years, are "taken into the account."

But we have exhausted our Kentucky space and must close.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Brother Jake Rice..... .....Grand Master.
R. W. Brother Hiram Bassett (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Whole number of Lodges 520, of which 6 are U. D.

LOUISIANA, 1880.

Grand Lodge met—its SIXTY-EIGHTH Grand Annual Communication—in the city of New Orleans, on Monday, February 9th, A. D, 1880, the session lasting four days.

Present—M. W. Grand Master Edwin Marks, numerous Past Grand Officers, Grand Representatives--P. G. Master Sam'l M. Todd doing the needful in that department for Alabama—and Representatives from 53 Chartered Lodges (of 147 total.)

The Grand Master's annual address is a good executive message, long and quite exhaustive in its discussion of local incidents and jurisdictional necessities. He refused "sundry applications throughout the year for permission to allow Lodge rooms to be rented to Grangers, Knights of Pythias and other secret societies. When will Masons learn and appreciate the true dignity and exclusive demands of their peculiar fraternal organization? Not, we fear, as long as Grand Master Marks, and many other no less worthy and, generally, prudent Grand Masters, of other jurisdictions, continue to persist in belittleing the *Institution*, by calling our grand old FRATERNITY "OUR ORDER!" Several Lodge Buildings had been wrecked by fire during the year, with loss of all conveniences for work, and causing no little distress in the locations so devastated. The Grand Master prudently recommends that "Lodges owning halls and other properties," should *insure* against such losses.

Three Lodges had "completed their surrenders" of Charters.

The commission of Grand Representative near the Grand Lodge of IOWA, (Bro. Jas. R. Hartsock) had, at the suggestion of Grand Master Abbott, of that jurisdiction, been annulled, and $25 received from

Iowa—for funeral expenses of a Mason hailing from that jurisdiction, and remitted under a misapprehension of "the ordinary workings" of Louisiana Relief Lodge No. 1—had been returned.

He says a good word of prophecy for the Craft of his charge, preceded by a candid statement of some existing evils, thus:

It is unreasonable to expect any marked revival in the condition of the Craft when we take into consideration the fact that the blasting effects of the late war, which among its other pernicious evils out of its "Pandora box," permitted an upheaval of society as one of its discords and distractions. Its demoralizing train of circumstances yet lingers through our communities, and in instances blight all enterprises of a moral nature. These are all reasons why the good among us should remain firm in their duty of fully leavening the mass, and keeping elevated the ever high general character of the Fraternity.

I am fully of the opinion, and I think events will prove its correctness, that the present year will herald an improvement in the condition of the Craft, morally as well as in point of tangible prosperity. I conceive we have reached the bottom of an abnormal state of affairs, and as period succeeds period we shall finally witness within our day and generation the re-establishment of Masonry in Louisiana as it existed prior to the war. To induce this desirable end it only needs from each and all of us a display of *duty* in and out of our Lodges, and but in the even tenor of our lives as men and as Masons, and the easily graded pinnacle is reached.

The financial condition of the Grand Lodge is represented as sound and improving, but the "per capita assessments" are spoken of as "a present ark of safety," and needed still, for, "without it, there is danger of an increase of debt, and with it, safety and diminution of debt." In this connection the Grand Master recommends the most rigid economy, &c. He had appointed a judicious committee to examine and report upon the value of their properties, etc., and thus gives assurance of valuations in excess of debts.

He had been alarmed by intelligence that one of their Lodges had borrowed money and issued bonds therefor, say $2,000, and was concerned to know how far this transaction would involve the Grand Lodge in legal responsibility in case of default in payment of the debt by the Lodge. The Committee, appointed to consider that subject, reported that the Grand Lodge could *not* be held liable "for the debts of constituent Lodges, unless authorized by it."

The Grand Master objects to life membership, and says of it:

Which I regard as a growing evil, and which, if not checked, is destined ultimately to sap the very life, or undermine and prostrate the well being and usefulness of some of the hitherto most prosperous Lodges in the State. When first instituted by the lodges, as a reward for certain years of continuous service on the part of their members, it appeared as a well deserved ovation to those who had remained faithful and regularly fulfilled their duties for a lengthened period, but like

many measures of the sort, without the test of experience, it has proven itself a serious bane—each year resulting in a marked decline of the Lodges, in a financial point of view, that may lead them finally to enforced dissolution. The Grand Lodge itself fell into the same error, and for several years, by edict, so encouraged the system by the Constituent Lodges, as to exempt from dues to itself those thus created for a period of fifteen years; but in 1877 by a unanimous vote it was repealed.

He speaks thus of what he calls

THE PERPETUAL RIGHT OF OBJECTION.

As time and experience discloses the operation of laws, it demonstrates their efficacy and salutary effects, or testifies to their failure or injustice. Observation has proven to my mind that the right of objection to the initiation or progress of a candidate should have a proscribed limit, a limit co-equal with the silent expression of the ballot and not exceeding it.

As the Edict exists, any Brother M. M. can, by virtue of his prerogative right of objection, interpose a barrier to the progress of a candidate, that is to stand just so long as he remains a member of the Lodge, and no matter whether present or not in the jurisdiction, such objection is potent at the will of the objector, and can last a life time. In our jurisdiction there is no difference made where the party has been initiated or passed, the objection entered standing as a barrier, and no explanation can be demanded. In many other jurisdictions objections after advancement, must be followed by charges.

The G. M. reports but one important decision, viz :

"That a member of a Lodge, particularly a life member, who is in arrears for the 'per capita assessment,' and whose whereabouts or residence is unknown, is directly liable to the optional action of the Lodge in dropping from the roll."

Which was objected to by the Committee on Jurisprudence because, as they report:

This is an assessment of the Grand Lodge on the Lodge, and cannot be considered dues, which can only be imposed as such by a Lodge, by virtue of a by-law to that effect. That law, reported as section 71, being only a special mode of trial for a special set of cases, cannot be extended to any other. The only mode of trial proper in the case reported, should have been under section 50, *et seq.*, of the Grand Lodge By-Laws.

He announces and *cautions* us against a

CLANDESTINE ORGANIZATION

I have recently been furnished with a printed circular emanating from an organization meeting in this city (said to be at the junction of "Elysian Fields" and Dauphin streets), styling themselves "Le Grand Orient de la Louisiane." This circular is addressed to "all Grand

Lodges, Supreme Councils and all regular Masons, without distinction, spread over the surface of the world," and is signed by C. T. Lopez, M. D., Grand Master, Gaston Dupoy de Hours. Grand Secretary, E. Merrigis. Deputy Grand Master, and is dated 25th November, 1879. Has a seal attached. In the body of the circular they state that, "at an extraordinary meeting held November 17th, 1879, regularly constituted a new Masonic power, national and independent, having for distinctive title, 'Le Grand Orient de la Louisiane.' at the Orient of New Orleans, following the Rite moderns, (dit Rite Francaise.)"

The Craft resident within the city, members of Lodges throughout the State, and all Grand Lodges on this continent, are hereby warned as to the clandestine character of the organization as above described.

I only note the existence of this organization as a matter of duty, in thus warning the Masonic World.

In the preceding comments upon and excerps from the Grand Master's address having given a pretty fair inkling of the condition and working of this Grand Lodge, we now proceed to show, somewhat of their opinion of us, as developed in the report on

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

A very excellent report, by the way, abounding in useful reading, both in its comments on the work of our American Grand Lodges and its very full presentation, and illustrations of the condition and doings of many "Foreign Grand Bodies." For which we are indebted to Bro. Wm. R. Whitaker, representing the Committee. Bro. Whitaker reviews the Alabama report and proceedings of 1878, giving Grand Master Armstrong credit for an address styled "brief, able, and business-like;" approves heartily his decision as to the non-necessity for the "PAST MASTERS' DEGREE," as a qualification for the office of W. M. Says of the report on "Suspensions, Expulsions and Appeals," that the Committee "seem to have considered it their duty to set forth, *in extenso*, the particulars of the charges made against brethren. Nothing good to Masonry can result from this practice, though it is the one fault of very many of the Committees on Appeals and Grievances, throughout the United States. We have no occasion to wash our dirty clothing in the face of the world. It is enough if the Grand Lodge and its committees do justice in these cases, and announce the result after their investigations. Their decision is hard enough, where it amounts to a condemnation, without publishing all the particulars, and there is no occasion for our furnishing material for scandal."

Nor can we defend the practice thus censured.

He alludes we presume approvingly (but we confess the language leans a little towards the sarcastical,) of our work in the matter of examining Lodge reports. He also deprecates the practice of not installing officers re-elected, and in this he is not at all singular, for many

jurisdictions have noticed and objected to the act. We quote his remarks on both topics, viz :

The reports of the Committees on Chartered Lodges are worthy of careful examination, and we commend to the committee of our Grand Lodge, to whom is delegated the duty, assigned in Alabama to the Committee on Chartered Lodges, an examination of the several reports presented. Since the decease of R. W. Bro. W. C. Driver, we have seen nothing equal to these Alabama reports in any Grand Lodge proceedings.

Lodge No. 75 is condemned because its returns show "errors too numerous to specify;" Lodge No. 150 receives the seal of condemnation for "two years, seal upside down in both returns;" Lodge No. 153 is reprimanded because its seal was "upside down;" and 175 is censured because its "seal is barely legible, and upside down;" 402 is blamed because its seal was "not upright;" 403 was denounced for the same reason; 378 was unfortunate, in that its seal was "not plumb," whatever that may mean; and others of the Lodges were generally, but amply, reproved for like errors.

The officers of the Grand Lodge were not installed, as they had held during the previous year the positions to which they had been re-elected. With all reference, this is bad practice; officers are sworn to discharge the duties of their several stations for the "ensuing Masonic year.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Edwin Marks (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. J. C. Batchelor, M. D. (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Whole number of Lodges..... 147.

MAINE, 1880.

Grand Lodge convened in its sixty-first annual communication at PORTLAND, Tuesday, May 4th, A. D. 1880.

Present, M. W. Grand Master Charles I Collamore, with all Grand Officers (*three* Grand Chaplains), Grand Representatives of 30 Grand Lodges, including Alabama, and one hundred and seventy (of 181) constituent Lodges represented.

The Grand Master's address. appropriate, full and unexceptional as an executive message, refers to many local incidents of the year and discusses several topics of general Masonic concern.

He announces with suitable expressions, of lament for the loss, and eulogy of the characters of, the following members of that jurisdiction deceased during the year—called, as we say masonically, from labor to refreshment, viz :

Rev'd Bro. Charles A. Curtis, Grand Chaplain, accidentally drowned in Moosehead Lake, 10th of July, 1879, and buried with Masonic honors; also, that of R. W. Bro. Moses Dodge, Grand Treasurer, buried

October 21st, of same year, "under direction of the Grand Lodge," with AMPLE funeral ceremony.

He also alludes feelingly to several mortuary events in other jurisdictions, especially to the death of R. W. Bro. Thomas J. Corson, Jr Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey; and also that of R. W. Bro. Ezra B. French. P. Sr. Grand Warden of Maine, but more recently Grand Representative of that Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of Washington, D. C., where he had for years resided devoted to public official duties, and in which he earned a high reputation for usefulness and unsullied integrity.

Bro. Wm. O. Fox was appointed Grand Treasurer, to succeed R. W. Moses Dodge, deceased, during recess of, and was subsequetly elected to that office on the assembling of the GRAND LODGE.

As in Louisiana, so in Maine, several (3) Lodge Halls were destroyed by fire; remarking upon these losses, the Grand Master says "the year has been marked by an unsually large number of casualties by fire."

The dedication in ample form, of the Masonic Temple at Belfast, was an occasion of special interest, the Grand Chapter and Grand Commandery assisting and 2,500 Brethren escorting the Grand Bodies. An eloquent Oration by M. W. Bro. Josiah H. Drummond, followed the *dinner* and feasted the intellectual appetites of the well fed guests.

Grand Representatives appointed for the Indian Territory, Louisiana, Maryland and Rhode Island.

Their first practice of requiring of each Lodge at the close of each decade, a summary of historical events of the preceding ten years, is noticed by the Grand Master; this year marking the close of another decade, with the purpose of impressing its importance upon all Lodges that had delayed compliance with the rule. This, it seems to us, is an admirable plan of accumulating the incidents of current jurisdictional history.

Petitions for two new Lodges were presented, and in reference to the general policy thus suggested, the Grand Master says:

> The subject of new lodges is one which may profitably occupy the attention of the Grand Lodge. There is a strong and growing feeling that we have already too many lodges, and that it would be better to favor consolidation, rather than further extension.
>
> I shall not claim that multiplication of lodges is the cause of *all* the troubles of the craft, but I think that most of them can be traced to it.
>
> If all who came to us came unbiased, and of their own free will, and so coming, were thoroughly taught the principles of, and became interested in, the practice of masonry, the case would be different. But it is not so. Large numbers—I speak advisedly—come through influence, directly or indirectly, and are hurried through the degrees, learning perhaps a few words of the ritual, and nothing of the principles or objects of the Fraternity. The result is indifference, and, sooner or

later, non-affiliation. The lodge gets the fee, which was the primary object, and the Craft an addition to the incubus bearing upon it.

A certain expense attends starting a lodge. In many cases it is understood that this expense, or a portion of it, is to be paid from the proceeds of the "work." We daily meet members of the Order who are totally unfit, morally, intellectually, or socially, to be Masons. We wonder how they came to be made. Investigation will show that, in a majority of cases, they were made in lodges which "must work."

Every new lodge entails increased expense upon the Grand Lodge. Every year the Grand Treasurer reports increased expense, without corresponding increase of revenue. The Grand Lodge is thus compelled to increase its dues, which bear heaviest upon weak lodges, which are generally in debt. The result is, more "work" and non-affiliation.

Very true and apposite are the above remarks, and the subject is one that claims considerate attention everywhere.

He decides a number of questions pertaining to jurisdictional law, and among them we find the following ruling as to the force of by law requirements, fully explained in the decision annexed, viz:

Question. The by-laws of our lodge say: "The members of the lodge shall shall sign the by-laws in force at the time of their admission." Four years ago I filed my dimit in this lodge, and was accepted. Have always paid my dues, and for the past two years have been Senior Warden. I have never signed the by-laws, being told it was not necessary. Am I a member of the lodge?

Answer. The Constitution of the Grand Lodge requires that applications for membership shall take a certain course, and receive a unanimous ballot. All these conditions you fulfilled. The ballot decides the question of membership. You are a member of the lodge.

In this connection, I suggest and recommend a Standing Regulation, that a Brother receiving an unanimous ballot upon his application for membership, shall thereby become a member. The Secretary shall enter his name upon the roll, and notify him of the fact.

A Mason, by his act of applying for and accepting membership in a lodge, is as much bound before as after the act of signing the by-laws. If thought necessary, there might be a prescribed form for applications for membership.

I deem this action desirable, because there is no point upon which our lodges now so much differ as this, and because experience has proved it to be a fruitful source of trouble.

Under the head of ANTI-MASONRY he alludes to a recent effort in a neighboring jurisdiction to start a crusade against secret societies, (we presume the church *pow wow* and so-called exposure in Boston last winter or spring, is there alluded to) and speaks of them as futile, but cautious the Craft wisely thereanent, thus:

The duty of Masons in this matter should be well understood, but it may not be unwise, at this time, to urge upon this Body, and through it upon the whole Craft, the practice, not only with regard to this but all subjects connected with masonry, of that cardinal virtue in a Mason, SILENCE

The reports of Grand Officers and the work of the Lodge all indicate prosperity, harmony, and development as characterizing this grand jurisdiction, and with this remark we hasten from the details of its legislative and judicial labors to dwell as long as our limits will permit upon the pleasant and instructive lessons of Bro. Josiah H. Drummond's well digested report on—

CORRESPONDENCE,

Which is just, as it always is, a treat to hungry seekers after useful masonic ideas, presented, too, in a style quite relishable even to those who may be constrained to differ from his opinions—a condition of mind *we* are not often inclined to. Bro. B. gives, in addition to his well arranged and valuable table of STATISTICS, (which we have again appropriated and made a part of our own report) a very full review of the proceedings of 54 Grand Lodges, including those of Alabama for 1879.

He treats *us* with very kind consideration, which is both agreeable and encouraging to one quite diffident enough, still, to doubt his special fitness for the difficult and responsible duties of a reviewer.

He is rejoiced at the favorable report, made by G. M. Armstrong, of the condition of the Craft and their "enthusiasm in the support of the ORDER (*Institution?*)

He notices and quotes our special Report on Correspondence, deprecating "entangling alliances" with certain foreign Grand Bodies, of diverse governmental organizations to ours, and says of it:

There is great force in these suggestions, and yet the great practical question really remains unanswered: "What course shall we take when members of these Bodies apply to visit us, or for aid as masons in distress?" Shall we tell them, "You are not masons?" If so, where is the boasted universality of Freemasonry? This doctrine is utterly repugnant to our very first lessons in masonry, and takes away from the Institution one of its most important attributes.

Our custom, Bro. D., is to try all applicants hailing from all Grand Jurisdictions, not inhibited by special edict of our Grand Lodge, as recusant to the true principles of the Fraternity, as in the case of the GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE—the only *denounced* organization on our records, we believe—and hence individual masons are received on their proved personal merits after masonic examination, which preclude any impediment to visiting or charitable assistance of the kind suggested.

We had marked many passages in this report for reference, but are constrained to forego comment thereon. We reproduce his "conclusion," as containing useful suggestions on the general situation, and a promise of the better day approaching, viz:

With the revival of business, comes an increase in the number of

candidates; but we have not yet reached the point where the terrible loss by non-payment of dues is overcome. *Fully one-third of the masons, or of those who once were masons, in the United States, are either unaffiliated, or deprived of masonic rights for non-payment of dues!*

There are many causes for this. The depression of business, the multitude of rival societies which give *now* disproportionate "benefits" for the dues paid, Grand Lodge debts causing heavy taxation, and a failure to cultivate the principle of Brotherhood among ourselves; all have more or less effect. But we incline to the belief that the policy of some Grand Lodges also contributes to this result. The greater the disabilities under which non-affiliates labor and the more stringent the regulations against them, the greater their number seems to be. For example, since New York adopted her present system she has been losing at the rate of more than five thousand a year--an aggregate, in three years, of *twenty per cent. of her entire membership.*

In our State we have not felt it so severely, probably because our Grand Lodge dues and lodge dues are less than in almost any other jurisdiction.

But we believe that this is but temporary. Business is reviving. and will soon become stable; the rival organizations are spending *now* the money which is as certainly to become due hereafter as death is certain; and when their money becomes exhausted, they go to pieces after demonstrating once more that a system of dues and benefits, based upon an *even* rate of sickness and mortality, utterly fails when applied to an *increasing* rate of both, and that the rate of both increases as the age of their members increases; Grand Lodges are at once paying off their debts and giving warning to others not to become similarly involved. Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, New York and others will not repeat their experience; and, with their examples before them, others will not be likely to travel the same path: and as we recover from the rush of candidates of the years of the war, we believe the bonds of brotherhood are strengthening. *So mote it be.*

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Charles I. Collamore (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Ira Berry (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Whole number of Lodges.....181

MANITOBA, 1880.

Grand Lodge met first in Emergent, Thursday, June 19th, 1879, and subsequently in regular annual communication, (the 5th) held at Winnepeg, on the 11th and 12th days of February, A. D. 1880. Present, and presiding at both meetings, M. W. Grand Master S. P. Matheson, and "a constitutional number of Lodges appeared by their Representatives."

The object of the first meeting was to act upon the report of the Grand Master, "*in re.*" the settlement of masonic difficulties, &c., and the (so-called) difficulties were settled in this wise—we give the Grand Master's statement. After a few preliminary remarks, in which it is

made known that the Grand Lodge had expressed a "willingness to open negotiations," and the REBELS had assented by appointing an arbitrator, "invested with full power to act," he says :

Previously to this, I must here remark, several of our officers agreed to cease to act. This was done to enable me, in the event of a settlement being arrived at, to give a representation in the Grand Lodge to those Brethren and Lodges who had gone out from us, on their returning to their allegiance. I cannot sufficiently thank these retiring officers for their noble and generous conduct in the matter. Some of them we can ill spare ; they have been self-denying workers in the interests of the Craft ; their extended Masonic experience and practice rendered them all but invaluable and indispensable to the Grand Lodge in her infancy and growth. Now that she is advancing in years and strength she must not lose them, she wants their counsel in the future guiding of her destinies, and, Brethren, I feel that she will have it ; though retiring from a particular office, I feel sure they will not retire from their former interest in the general good of the Craft.

But I must return to the details of our negotiations. Upon the appointment of this Arbitrator, I conferred with him. Having given me his written assurance of the dissolution of the body he represented, I withdrew all suspensions ; and I have much pleasure in bringing before you now the report of our proceedings.

The M. W. Grand Master then submitted the basis of settlement, of which the following is a summary, viz :

1st. Provides for dissolution of seceding Grand Lodge.

2nd. The M. W. Grand Master shall issue an edict, under the seal of the Grand Lodge, withdrawing all suspensions of Lodges or individual Masons that have in any manner been caused by or arisen out of the difficulties, and also, healing all work done by the Lodges not in allegiance with the Grand Lodge of Manitoba.

3rd. The M. W. Grand Master shall, as soon as practicable, countersign the Warrants of Northern Light and King Solomon Lodges, for the purpose of legalizing the same.

4th. That all Lodges shall take rank and precedence according to the date of their respective Warrants of Constitution.

5th. Provides for the filling of all the offices held by the brethren who have ceased to act.

6th. The M. W. Grand Master shall do all in his power to have the Representatives of Foreign Grand Lodges, whose appointments have been cancelled in consequence of the present difficulties, reinstated in their former positions.

7th. Provides for the payment of the liabilities of the seceding body, and also for transfer of assets.

(Signed) SAMUEL P. MATHESON,
GEORGE BLACK,
Arbitrators.

The Grand Master again refers to this settlement in his address to the annual communication, saying :

Of the terms of this settlement I need say little. They are before you in the minutes of the special communication, of the date mentioned. I do not claim constitutional perfection for them. I know that they

are defective in some points. Still I feel confident that they are the best that could have been obtained at the time and under the existing circumstances. There was just the choice between remaining a divided body and accepting the compromise obtainable To enter upon the detailed merits of the case and thus defend and support, in the eyes of the Masonic world, the position I took, would only open up old sores and heart-burnings here, which I think are far better covered by the curtain of the past. I claim also that the settlement was not only a great boon to Masonry here, but it was also opportune. It put an end to the rancorous feelings which, I am sorry to say, prevailed at the time in the Craft. The rupture was growing daily more and more serious, and every day more difficult to heal. Its effects were being felt throughout the whole jurisdiction. Interest was flagging in many of the subordinate Lodges. The head was sick, and, as a consequence, the other members suffered with it.

After the settlement, however, there was a felt revival. Since then, too, we have been united and have worked harmoniously and happily together, so that the result has convinced us of the justice of our action, and given us the satisfaction of feeling that our work has not been in vain. In speaking thus of the present and the past, I do not wish, for one moment, to be understood to say one word disparagingly of my predecessor or of his actions. He worked faithfully and conscientiously in the interests of the Order, and it was his misfortune, rather than his fault, that the secession took place during his term of office. The disturbance was not the growth of a day. It was the growth of a long period, and it simply came to an issue under his rule. Happily, however, these are now things of the past. There are now, we have good reason to believe, no two parties in the Masonry of our jurisdiction. We are all one without any disturbing element.

This is all very well, possibly, for Manitoba, and we are ready to rejoice with her in the restoration of peace and harmony within her jurisdiction. But outsiders may well enquire who is responsible for this disturbance? Why did GRAND MASTER NEWCOMB announce, in 1878, the REVOLT, now adjusted by concessions made, for the most part, by the complaining authorities, as we read the terms of settlement, as being characterized by "some of the *blackest masonic offences on record*," and again he calls it, "*this crowning treachery?*" Was he right in thus denouncing the actions of the disaffected, and if so, why has the Grand Lodge yielded so much to the demands of *treason?* The REBELS certainly got the *Lion's share* of concessions, and if we are to believe the original charges, their *peace* was purchased at the expense of *principle.* But that would not have been masonic, and we must seek some other explanation of this anomalous adjustment. One only conclusion is left us, and that suggests a fault in M. W. Newcomb, for ill advised and hasty action, as well as unjust accusations, in his proclamation of 1878 and his edict of 1879; though as his Grand Lodge failed to censure him, we suppose it is our duty also to—"reserve judgment."

The proceedings, apart from the adjustment just alluded to, are not of special general interest.

They worked diligently and harmoniously in promoting the interest of the Craft in their jurisdiction, and there is every indication that prosperity and enlargement await the Grand Lodge of Manitoba in the near future.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. John H. Bell (late Grand Secretary).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. William G. Scott.....Grand Secretary.
Number of working Lodges 10, and one U. D.

MARYLAND, 1879.

Grand Lodge met in annual communication (its 97th anniversary,) at Baltimore, Tuesday, November 18th, 1879. Present, M. W. Grand Master John M. Carter, all Grand Officers occupying "their respective places," and seventy-two (of 91) Lodges represented. Several Grand Representatives were also present, and during the session the Grand Secretary presented the credentials of Bro. Wm. M. Isaacs as Grand Representative of Alabama.

The Grand Master's annual address is a comprehensive but short executive message confined strictly to business. He speaks first of "finance," a subject which had, during the year, engaged the active attention and effort of the "Board of Managers," and we may remark had for several years caused the Grand Lodge no little concern and uneasness. He announced a large curtailment of the debt, and, consequently, of annual expenditure for interest; which we are glad to note, although the extent of the debt reduction is largely due to compromises, with estates, suggested by and urged by the agents of the Grand Lodge a debt of $26,963 71 was settled for $15,000, and another of $40,000 was cancelled by the payment of $30,000—both of them debts secured by mortgages—a very successful and relieving *duo* of negotiations *truly*. Now avoid debt in future and, with a little more economy and perseverance, our Brethren of Maryland will be all right again financially.

The Grand Master makes two decisions of general interest, which we quote—remarking of the *second* that it appears, to the writer, a little too stringent and interferes with the freedom of the Lodge, in the matter of the *disposing* of its own dues quite unnecessarily; unless some local law governed the decision, and in that case we object to the law, viz:

Burial of a Suicide.—A brother in good standing having committed suicide while laboring under an aberation of mind superinduced by bodily injury, it was desired by his family that he should be buried with Masonic ceremony.

The required assent was given, upon the ground that whatever objection would obtain in the case of one apparently sane, there could be

none if the brother at the time of the act of self-destruction was undoubtedly insane.

In another case a Lodge *donated* to a dropped or suspended member the amount of dues owing by him and then proceeded to credit him with the amount as though paid—preliminary to re-instatement—the brother's object being to demit at once and join a Lodge in another State where he is now residing, for the purpose of seeking assistance.

Held : That the proceedings were irregular and void, that the dues must be *actually* paid before the brother was in position to make application ; and that in this instance the applicant's avowed object rendered the whole proceedings improper and void even if he had paid up his dues.

The session held three days and was mainly occupied with local business.

We note that a poposition to amend the Constitution so as to reduce the fees for the three degrees from $50 (which is *too low*) to $30, was rejected—glad of it.

The half yearly report of the Masonic Relief Lodge, shows good work in helping the needy who were WORTHY, while the "Masonic tramps" were taught experimentally, "that Baltimore is a bad place to come to "—a sort of jourdan of a road, we take it, for such travelers.

The COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE, composed of Bros. F. J. S. Gorgas, John W. Horn, and Jno. D. Lickle—make a short report, very good of the kind, saying that :—

To reduce the expense of printing, the Committee on Correspondence have determined to present a brief summary in lieu of the voluminous report it has previously been the custom to make.

We called attention last year to the action of Maryland in reference to an Italian deliverance quite as obnoxious to Masonic Deism as that of France, and noticed for the first time and only in the report of this Committee. They now say on that subject what follows, viz :

The committee take pleasure in stating that the action of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, as suggested by the Committee on Correspondence in their special report made at the November Communication, 1878, relating to the severance of all fraternal intercourse with the Grand Orient of Italy on account of its following the example of the Grand Orient of France in promulgating atheistical doctrines, has been generally approved by the Grand Lodges of America ; also the action relating to the German Masonic Diet, on account of its recognition of irregular bodies within several of the Grand Jurisdictions of this country.

They reported a resolution, and the Grand Lodge adopted it, forbidding in their jurisdiction any intercourse with Masons hailing from QUEBEC, and not acknowledging the authority of that Grand Lodge.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Jno. M. Carter (re-elected)..... Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Jacob H. Medairy (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Whole number of Lodges... ..... 91.

MASSACHUSETTS, 1879.

The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts assembled in its 146th annual communication, in the city of BOSTON, on Wednesday, the 10th day of December, 1879. Present, M. W. Charles W. Welch, Grand Master, with all Grand Officers, a long list of permanent members (P. G. Officers), and the Representatives of 153 constituent Lodges.

This communication was preceded by a special held at Gloucester, September 11th, and another at New Bedford, October 17, 1879; both ceremonial occasions the first to dedicate "the soldiers and sailors monument," and the second to "constitute" a Lodge.

Following the annual there was a SPECIAL COMMUNICATION on the 27th December (same year)—St. John's Day—called to dedicate the *apartments* of Monitor and Isaac Parker Lodges, and a "STATED COMMUNICATION" was held in Boston, for the Installation of Officers, on the 30th of December.

Grand Master presided in the East at each of these assemblages, except two of these meetings, at which R. W. Abraham H. Howland Jr., D. G. Master, governed the Craft.

The annual address of Grand Master Welch is devoted mainly to subjects pertaining to "home rule," and is a clear exposition of jurisdictional occurrences and needs. He mentions appropriately the death of R. W. Charles Kimball of Lowell, P. S. Grand Wardon, and also that of R. W. Jerome V. C. Smith, P. D. D. Grand Master. The latter was an M. D., "and while in charge of RAINSFORD ISLAND HOSPITAL introduced important and valuable changes in the treatment of small-pox patients, which he carried out with skill and characteristic energy."

The Grand Orient of Portugal in a friendly letter expressing fraternal respect, asked for an exchange of Representatives with Massachusetts, which overture the Grand Master was compelled to decline as his Grand Lodge "had not adopted the policy of appointing representatives to other Masonic Bodies or receiving representatives from them."

He is still impressed with "the importance of avoiding, as far as possible, detailed reports of Masonic proceedings in newspapers and periodicals other than Masonic," and again cautions against the practice.

He cautions against one C. C. Burt, hailing from Jackson, Michigan, who had recently advertised to confer upon applicants the *Egyptian Rite*, so-called, and gives information of him proving his rather doubt-

ful status as a Mason in New Jersey and Michigan—so beware of the imposter!

He had visited and witnessed the work of 30 Lodges, and reports favorable conditions of the Lodges generally. The Brethren of Massachusetts have struggled manfully with their Masonic Temple debt, and under wise counsels and persistent effort it is beginning to decrease perceptibly in amount and in its burden of interest. They had reduced the principal from $275,000 to $258,000 during the year, and had also negotiated for a reduction of interest on $28,000 of it from 7 to 4½ per cent.

The Installation stated meeting was as usual in Massachusetts an important occasion, for unlike Alabama, that Grand Lodge installs with all due and ample ceremony each Grand Officer elected for the year whether re-elected or not. Grand Master Welch was installed on this occasion for the third time and term.

We know our local readers will read it with pleasure and profit, and we therefore re-produce the installation prayer of W. Grand Chaplain Rev. Joshua Young. We were tempted to do the same last year and express, as we now do, our admiration of his well chosen words and deeply impressive thought and manner of adoration and supplication, viz:

PRAYER OF INSTALLATION.

Great art Thou, O God, and to be held in reverence of all them that are about Thee. The heavens are Thine, the Earth also is Thine; as for the world and the fulness thereof, Thou hast founded them. Justice and judgment are the habitation of Thy throne; mercy and truth go before Thy face.

We thank Thee, O God, for the fulness and the promise of this hour. We recognize the gracious providence which has guided the rolling year, obedient to Thy sovereign will, and which renews to us the grateful feeling that Thou art still with us in all the aims and purposes which make strong and steadfast our attachment to the beloved Fraternity, in whose name we are gathered here at this time

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem! praise thy God, O Zion! For He has strengthened the bars of thy gates; He hath blessed thy children within thee; He maketh peace in thy borders; He sendeth thee light; He increaseth thee more and more.

Again called by a unanimous choice to preside over this Grand Lodge, behold Thy servant now kneeling at this altar for the consecration of prayer to the high office into which he is this day inducted. May the spirit of the Lord be upon him; the spirit of wisdom and understanding; the spirit of counsel and might. Enable him, O blessed and eternal God, to understand and make use of all the proper helps of duty, and kindle in his soul a flame of devotion to the interests of this Grand Lodge, which no difficulty, no infirmity within, or contradiction without, may ever extinguish. Give him grace that he may in all things ask first what is Thy good pleasure; follow the best exam-

ples, and ever press towards the high mark which the distinguished character of his past services has set before him.

Still keep him a pillar of Strength; endue him with Wisdom from on high, and by the Beauty of holiness may he be incited to the practice of all the virtues to which he has plighted his honor and his truth. And Thy blessing rest upon all associated with him in the government of this Lodge, and in the direction of its affairs. Grant that they keep watch against the omission of any part of their duty, and the neglect of any opportunity by which they may advance the welfare of our ancient Order, or instruct, assist, or comfort any brother man.

May their light so shine before men, that they, seeing their good works, may glorify Thee—the Father Everlasting, who art above all, and through all, and in us all. AMEN.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Charles A. Welch (thrice elected by a thrice repeated unanimous ballot).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Tracy P. Cheever (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Whole number of Lodges..... 224.

MICHIGAN, 1880.

The M. W. Grand Lodge held its 36th annual communication on the 27th and 28th days of January, 1880, in the city of Detroit.

Present—M. W. Daniel Striker, Grand Master, most of the Grand Officers at stations, and the Representatives of 300 constituent Lodges in attendance. (We take this number of Lodges represented from the PAY ROLL, supposing that a good test of attendance; the Grand Secretary, too, seems to be *chary* of giving such details, as well as heedless of the propriety of "footing up" his columns of statistics.)

The Grand Master's address is very long, almost tediously so to an outsider; but probably necessary to a full discussion of several important jurisdictional questions which could not be satisfactorily presented in a briefer manner (if that expression is admissible.) Among the lengthy disquisitions of this address, the case of one Calvin C. Burt is elaborately discussed. It is he of whom the Grand Master of Massachusetts warned the Craft of that jurisdiction in reference to his advertisement in Boston to confer the degrees of the so-called EGYPTIAN RITE. He seems to have succeeded "in kicking up a rumpus" in two Grand Bodies—Michigan and New Jersey—and must be one of those "turbulent ones," who are more inclined "to rule in Hell than serve in Heaven." We do not care to dwell on the varying phases of his controversies with the Grand Lodges referred to, and will only express our decided conviction that he ought to be, if he is not, an EXPELLED MASON.

He discusses ably and interestingly several important local matters, such as Schools of Instruction, Delinquent Lodges, Finance, &c.

His decisions are numerous, and we quote a few as covering questions of general interest, as follows, viz:

1. Can the duly elected and installed Secretary or Junior Deacon of a Subordinate Lodge be dimitted during his term of office?

Answer.--Yes. The right of dimit is inherent. [See Grand Lodge, P. 1851.] An election to either of the offices above named does not deprive the Brother of any rights as a member.

5. A Brother regularly elected and duly installed in an office, in a Subordinate Lodge, cannot resign. Severing of membership is the only mode of creating a vacancy in office.

8. The loss of the third and fourth fingers of the right hand, (the first and second being perfect,) disqualifies the applicant for receiving the degrees of Masonry.

9. I have refused two applications for permission to receive the petitions and confer the degrees of Masonry upon a candidate having but one eye.

11. I think the observance of the following general rule will settle the question as to the necessary physical qualifications of a candidate:

A candidate, to entitle him to receive the degrees of Masonry should be able to make all signs, take all steps and assume all positions with his natural limbs, in order that he may receive and impart instructions correctly.

13. Charges for non-payment of *dues* should take the same course as for any other Masonic offense. They should be read at length in open Lodge at a regular communication that all the brothers may know just what they contain, and trial had thereon and the judgment entered in each case.

20. Among Grand Master McCurdy's decisions is the following: "That when a candidate, who may have been rejected by one Lodge, removes into the jurisdiction of another, such other Lodge can receive and act upon his application; but if the applicant be elected, such Lodge shall take no further action until it shall have obtained the recommendation and consent of the Lodge having personal jurisdiction of the rejected material."

No one can regret more than I that the necessity should arise to dissent from this decision, for certainly no one has a greater respect for the opinions of the Most Worshipful Brother who made it than I have. But I firmly believe it wrong in principle, besides, I am satisfied it is causing confusion among our Lodges.

And, after giving several cogent reasons for this dissent, he says:

It is therefore my opinion, that a Lodge electing a candidate, that has been rejected by another Lodge without *first* having obtained the consent of such Lodge, acquires *no* personal jurisdiction over the candidate whatever. And that the only action a Lodge should take upon a petition presented to it under such circumstances is to receive the same for the purpose *only* of asking the former Lodge to release personal jurisdiction in the case; and its reference to a committee of inquiry and subsequent balloting thereon without *first* obtaining such consent is premature and tends to confusion.

The Craft in Michigan are evidently prospering, are well governed, harmonious and zealous.

The Grand Master says of their past and present condition :

Little more than thirty-five years ago, nine Brothers, representing four Lodges, met in convention in this city, and organized this Grand Lodge. Few, possibly none, remain who were participants in that meeting ; but they left a good example for us to imitate—a good record to guide us ; and it will be well if we imitate their virtues and zeal. That they planned wisely and well is evidenced by the fact that we to-day meet as the representatives of 342 working Lodges, having a total membership of 26,000.

With an increased and enlarged membership come corresponding responsibilities. It was theirs then ; it is ours now, and will be still greater on the morrow. They assumed it among many difficulties; they laid the foundations deep, and on the solid rock. It is ours to continue the work according to the general plan left us, and build thereon worthy of the founders ; continue it then for the advancement of the best interests of the whole, and for the honor of all. We are sad to notice the absence of some we had learned to honor in days past. Their familiar forms are not here ; we do not hear their footsteps upon the checkered floor ; their voices, once so clear and familiar to our ears, are no longer heard at our annual communications. They are silent, for Mother Earth has claimed her own ; but, as true men and Masons, their influence is still here and felt among us ; and may we do our work thus well, that the same may be truthfully said of us when we also shall fail to answer the annual roll call.

The report on

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Is by Wm. P. Innes, R. W. Grand Secretary, for Committee, and is a well digested and creditable review of the proceedings of 54 Grand Lodges, including those of Alabama for 1878—our 58th annual Report. He also gives a pleasant *resume* of intelligence from "Foreign Grand Lodges," including AFRICA, CEYLON and CHINA, as well as EUROPE.

He is brief (quite so in some of his reviews) in his comments on the proceedings discussed. Possibly this is explained, or the reason for it, in his (too) brief

CONCLUSION.

Remembering the old adage, "pay as you go," we bring our brief review to a briefer close, knowing that by so doing we receive the thanks of our Grand Lodge who have it to pay for, as well as the Brethren of the Corps Reportorial who have it to read.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. John W. McGrath.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Wm. P. Innes (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Whole number of Lodges..... 342.

MINNESOTA, 1880.

Grand Lodge convened at ST. PAUL, Tuesday, January 13th, A. D. 1880—its 27th annual communication. The record informs us that—

The Grand Master * * * * opened a lodge of Master Masons, preparatory to the opening of the Grand Lodge.

Which we note as a *little* peculiar. One hundred and twelve Lodges "answered to the call of the roll," and *then*—

"There being a constitutional number of lodges represented, the Grand Master proceeded to open the Grand Lodge of Minnesota in AMPLE FORM."

After which the Grand Master—M. W. H. R. Wells—read an excellent annual address, in which he treats of many topics, some merely local in their purport, and others of general interest and significance, among the latter the jurisdictional controversy with the Grand Lodge of Dakota is the most important. Of this dispute the Grand Master speaks in tones of moderation and conciliation, as follows, viz:

Masonic usage dictates whenever a subordinate lodge of its obedience shall voluntarily request of its parent Grand Lodge to withdraw its affiliation in order to unite with other lodges in the same civil division or territory in which it is situate, in the forming a new Grand Lodge, or to merge its jurisdiction with that of a Grand Lodge already formed, that it be granted. In accordance with that principle I recommend that the prayer of the petition of Shilo Lodge No. 105, be granted in the hope and desire that it may find true fraternal welcome and prosperity in its new relations.

I refrain from entering into the discussion of our relations with the Grand Lodge of Dakota since the whole subject stands committed to the committee as indicated, who will advise you fully. I will say this, however, that this Grand Lodge disclaims any intention to in any way encroach upon the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Dakota. Just in that degree that we should resist encroachments upon our own rights and dignity, so would we refrain from trespassing upon those of others. The claim that we have violated this principle is in my judgment assumption merely, and not warranted by the facts. Yet, if it be not conceded that there is a difference of opinion involved which will admit of discussion, an adjustment may not be reached.

The Committee on Jurisprudence, above alluded to, in an able report review the origin and then condition of this controversy, and while equally conciliatory with the Grand Master, using terms of good will and conciliation towards Dakota, are nevertheless very pronounced in the asserting their opinion that Minnesota is, or was, for we believe "that little unpleasantness is already finally settled," right in her position, &c. They give a full statement of the controversy, and while doing so, assert with some positiveness doctrines squinting very strongly towards, if not actually asserting, the right of "CONCURRENT JURISDIC-

TION; at least so far as regards Lodges choosing to continue allegiance to their original organizations, after the establishment of a new Grand Lodge, claiming rule over the territory of their location.

Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, in his report on CORRESPONDENCE, asserts and defends similar opinions, arriving at this conclusion, viz:

We deduce that any number of lodges within certain defined limits, being the political lines bounding States, territories, &c., may unite—such has been the custom, and acknowledged—and organize a Grand Lodge.

That the Grand Lodge thus organized has all the rights, powers and privileges of pre-existing Grand Lodges, and if *all* of the lodges in the territory unite in the organization, then it has exclusive jurisdiction in such territory; but if one or more lodges decline to enter into the compact, then the new organization has jurisdiction only over the territory possessed by its constituent lodges.

Now, to our thinking, these Brethren are advocating the essential principles of CONCURRENT JURISDICTION, and that dogma we believe to have been the fruitful source of all the past and pending Grand Lodge disputes of this and other countries, and is, in its very nature, illy calculated to restore or promote harmony among the Grand Bodies. With it, professed and acted upon, there is always some specious pretext or laudable motive intervening to warrant, and apparently excusing, the interference, positive or limited, with Lodges located in other Sovereign Territories. So in the case of Minnesota, as Bro. Pierson expresses it, "she has done nothing but refuse to drive her own children out of her house;" (Scotland did no more, at first, and Germany claims that of New York) and again "a Grand Lodge is bound to extend equal protection to *its subordinates* no matter where situated;" (in national affairs the attempt to enforce that declaration would be "*casus belli*") forgetting, the while, that if prompt yielding up of jurisdiction had followed the establishment and recognition of the New Grand Lodge the Lodges in controversy would, quite as promptly in all probability have assimilated themselves to the new conditions We verily believe that it is because of the supposed validity of governmental practices incident to CONCURRENT JURISDICTION that Lodges ever attempt to hold, or are induced to give preference to, their original allegiance. The American theory and practice of EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION as we receive it is the ANTITHESIS of this CONCURRENT promoter of strife, and tends, when fully accepted and honestly practiced to dissipate all clouds of doubt and disputation, as well as prevent the possibility of collisions by the irresistable logic and defensive safeguard of non-interference.

It says and means "touch me not," as regards jurisdictional rights, and if that caution is properly heeded, there can arise no cause of dispute as to territorial rights. Let it be "once and for all" agreed that

a New Grand Lodge,—properly organized, by a clear majority of its Lodges, and generally recognized, as regular, worthy and competent to govern the Craft, by other Grand Lodges,—is entitled to EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION over its prescribed territory and, our word for it, all this strife and contention will cease. We believe that the troubles alluded to are mainly superinduced by the belief, acted upon, that another Grand Lodge can govern Lodges in an essentially foreign country.

SCOTLAND applied "concurrent jurisdiction" to QUEBEC, and in her acts has only gone a little beyond the claims advocated by Minnesota; but that *beyond* is a legitimate *ultimate* of the doctrines on which the claims is founded; for if you can govern an *old* Lodge in another's bailiwick, why not establish and govern a new one? the Lodge *requesting* and the Grand Body deeming it for the good of masonry (the generally alledged motives) to do so. But we have said more than we intended to say on this topic and desist from further comment, adding only, "Let us have peace," which will come, inevitably, if we properly govern our own and let all other jurisdictions, severely, alone in their territorial rights and control.

Returning again to the Grand Master's address we can only briefly allude to the many notable subjects discussed therein. He announces the death of Bro. D. D. Grand Master Ingmund Ingmundson, and also that of Bro. Abram Van Vorhes, P. J. Grand Warden, both of whom are suitably honored "in memoriam" by the proceedings and mortuary tablets.

He had been applied to for, and had refused recognition and assent, to the petition, a dispensation to organize a (colored) Lodge by parties "who belong to organizations not recognized by us, and we cannot hold masonic intercourse with them."

He objects to the tendency of Lodges "to contract indebtedness," and wisely cautions against it. Is not in favor of a too stringent application of the suspension for non-payment of dues rule, and expresses gratification at the favorable condition of "Grand Lodge funds."

He is not in favor of dual membership, and advises the Grand Lodge to correct an error of past legislation, repealing all regulations heretofore forbidding it.

Speaks of the formation in AUSTRALIA of the new Grand Lodge of "New South Wales," but thinks it advisable to await further development before complying with their request for recognition.

Inculcates charity, but does not think the practice of relieving the wants of a sojourning Brother and their calling upon his Lodge to refund is consistant with true charity, in which opinion we fully concur.

We dissent from one of his decisions propounded as follows:

To constitute a brother, a member of a lodge, except he be a charter

member, he must in addition to other requirements, sign the by-laws, until he does so he is non-affiliate.

The work of the third degree was exemplified by "Ancient Land Mark Lodge" on a candidate furnished by that Lodge, and in Grand Lodge, in a manner eliciting the approval and thanks of the Grand Master.

The report on

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Is by Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, Grand Secretary, and is fully up to the standard of his former deliverances in that department of his multiform official labors.

He reviews the proceedings of 51 Grand Lodges, and among them gives the Alabama report of 1878 appropriate and rather extended notice.

He quotes the remarks of Bro. Titcomb, Chairman, in reference to the odious practice of profanity, and says of it:

We present an extract from the report of the "Committee on Suspensions, Expulsions and Appeals," with the remark that we regard the matter as of infinitely more interest to the welfare of the fraternity than the non-payment of dues, to which so much prominence is given.

He does not like our resolution authorizing Lodges to "at any time to suspend demitted or unaffiliated Masons," &c., and says of it:

We have been under the impression that membership in a lodge was voluntary; that a mason had a perfect right to deny himself of the privileges and advantages attending lodge membership if he so willed.

The exception is not well taken, we think.

He is also pleased to say a good word for our effort as correspondent of that year.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Henry R. Wells (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. A. T. C. Pierson (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Whole number of Lodges chartered 131—U. D. 5.

MISSISSIPPI, 1880.

Grand Lodge convened at Jackson, on the 4th day of February, A. D. 1880—its sixty-second annual communication—(continuing its sessions through three days.)

Present—M. W. Frank Burkitt, Grand Master, all Grand Officers, numerous P. G. Officers, Grand Representatives, twenty-three Grand Bodies, including Alabama, and Representatives of 245 (of 302) constituent Lodges.

To which the "also a large number of visiting Brethren of the record," gives us an important additional item towards the conclusion that this was a full, if not crowded, assemblage of *Craftsmen*.

The Grand Master's address is long and full of important jurisdictional details and suggestions. He seems to have had a busy year of overseership, and was disposed to confine his remarks mainly to the particular business of his administration, so that there appears in this message very little matter of general interest to those outside of that jurisdiction.

He says "the condition of our general finances is not, I fear, as gratifying as it was two years ago," and this he attributes partly to the fact "that the Grand Lodge of Mississippi persists in keeping itself *on wheels*." We are glad you SPOTTED that irregularity, M. W., for we admire not the "peripatetics" in philosophy, nor are we inclined towards Grand Masonic Bodies as rambling *show-ups* for the delectation of competing towns or cities eager to get a sight of our "Elephant," and *benefit* by its incidental expenditures. Were there no other reasons opposing such wanderings as we allude to, the fact that it is both inconvenient and undignified would be sufficient to "give pause" to such practices. We note that Jackson was selected as the place for the G. L. meeting another year.

His decisions are quite numerous, two of them in reference to the necessity of the P. M. degree we quote, and object to the principle announced, and to his statement of its "*universal* acknowledgment," as several jurisdictions, and among them Alabama, do not assent to his *sine qua non* in that matter. His decisions are thus stated, viz :

10. The Junior Warden is elected W. M. of a Lodge. Can he be installed without receiving the Past Master's Degree?

Answer.—He cannot. "Investing a Master elect with the degree of Past Master is universally acknowledged to be a *sine qua non* in qualifying him for the chair."

I desire, just here, to notice another feature in the case as presented by the Worshipful Brother propounding the above question. He stated in his communication that he was the only Past Master in the Lodge, and as the P. M. degree could not be conferred without the assistance of two other Past Masters, which could not be readily obtained, he asked my advice as to his duty in the premises. I directed him to continue to officiate as Master of the Lodge until the Master elect could get the P. M. degree, which, if not sooner conferred, might be readily obtained during the session of the Grand Lodge.

Answer.—By election then and there. The object in giving notice that the election would be held is to insure a full attendance of the membership. They being present to fill the vacancy in the office of Master, caused by the refusal of the brother elect to serve, could with equal propriety fill any other vacancy which might occur, because of the promotion of one or more brethren elected on a former occasion.

Carrying this ruling to its natural, and inevitable, conclusion, and

the symbolic degrees, the beginning and ending of all true Masonry would be dependent upon the "Capitulary" for permission to rule and govern Lodges, and a blue Lodge could not survive the Chapter refusal to aid in constituting it. Away with such folly! It inclines us almost to oppose the (so-called) high degrees, for with the writer, all Chapters, Councils and Commanderies are dependent for origin, thrift and perpetuity upon the ground-work of the Blue, and the claim of superiority, intimated for the Chapter in the above decisions, is, to our mind, just simply preposterous. It is like commencing a building at the *top*, instead of at the firm foundation-stone.

He refers approvingly to the scheme, introduced last year and referred to a committee, for a "Masonic Mutual Aid Association," and we observe in the proceedings that they actually "went and done it" by *chartering* an Association for

MASONIC INSURANCE.

The Special Committee on Masonic Mutual Aid, having perfected a plan for the organization of an Association, reported the same, and it was approved by Grand Lodge, and the following brethren chosen as Directors on the part of Grand Lodge: Bros. Jas. T. Faut, W. S. Featherston, W. G. Paxton, P. M. Savery, A. J. Lewis, J. L. Power.

May they never *rue* the day of this departure from true masonic work and ways!

We again note the excellence, and laborious care indicated therein, of the Reports of Grand Officers and Grand Committees.

This is especially true of the work and deliverances of the Committee on Law and Jurisprudence, which are exceptionally numerous, able and lengthy. Bros. Frederick Speed, Chairman, and Murry and Freeman compose the Committee, who, in addition to their usual important duties, had, on this occasion, to report a Code of Laws for the Grand Lodge as a duty assigned them by reference at the last annual communication.

Our casual reading of the rules and regulations referred to, impresses us with the conviction that they are good and useful ones, and now that such laws have been adopted, let them be rigidly enforced, and not tampered with by amendments until their merits are thoroughly attested.

By recommendation of a Committee, the Masonic Review—Cincinnati—was recognized as the "official organ" of Mississippi, in place of the JEWEL—Memphis—suspended by death of the lamented Wheeler.

One Grand Representative made a Report, viz: P. G. M. N. H. Barkley, representing the Grand Lodge of North Carolina.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Is represented by an able and thoughtful report by Bro. J. M. Howry, for the Committee. It is quite an extended review, embracing the proceedings of 49 Grand Lodges, among which Alabama is included and receives due and considerate attention, the Report of 1878 being under review.

He says of Grand Master Armstrong's address that it "is well written," and besides dwelling on the business before the Grand Lodge, contains some excellent suggestions, which show that the Grand Master has had the interest of the Craft at heart," and quotes several paragraphs therefrom and a few of his decisions with evident approval.

Bro. Howry is pleased to say kind and complimentary words of our efforts at Correspondence, for which we thank him sincerely.

Not having time, or space either, to devote more to Mississippi, for we have wandered, child-like, among the "pleasant fields and pastures green" of other jurisdictions, culling sweets, and flowers too, until we have overloaded our portfolio with well filled page receptacles. We must content ourselves by quoting what Bro. H. says of the PAST MASTER'S degree, expressing views much less objectionable to us, than those of his Grand Master, viz:

> The Grand Lodge seems to assume jurisdiction—*quasi*, it may be—over this Degree. It decides that it must be conferred on every Master elect before or at his installation, and that it is a *sine qua non*. It does not possess the power to enforce this requirement, except by the operation of a stringent law on a Master elect, declaring in effect that he is no Master at all unless he gets the Degree. It is admitted by every Master Mason that the Grand Lodge is not composed entirely of Past Masters. A Grand Lodge might be legally constituted with a large majority of its members entirely ignorant of the Past Master's Degree, being Wardens. Any legislation by the Grand Lodge so constituted would be in the dark. Our position has been heretofore stated, that when the Degree *can be obtained*, let the Master take it. Where it cannot be obtained, for instance, for want of power to force a convocation of Past Masters, then the Master elect could go on and preside over his Lodge, by being installed according to the published form, found in all the manuals. If he could not preside, no one will question the right of the Senior and Junior Wardens to preside if the rightful Master is not there qualified to preside, without the Past Master's Degree.
>
> To obviate all difficulties as far as possible, and to facilitate the impartation of the secret part of this Degree, an order of Past Masters should be established in every Grand Jurisdiction, and such comity as could be secured between those of the order and the Grand Lodge, ought to be established so every Master elect could get the Degree.
>
> A proposition is now pending before the General Grand Chapter of the United States to arrange the Chapter degrees so as to make the Past Masters' degree the first in the Chapter, and the fourth degree in Ma-

sonry—so that when a Master elect gets the degree he could associate on terms of equality with a Chapter Past Master and *vice versa*.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. William French.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. J. L. Power (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Whole number of Lodges.....302.

MISSOURI, 1879.

Grand Lodge met at St. Louis, in its 59th annual communication, October 14th, A. D. 1879.

Present—Noah M. Given, with all but two Grand Officers in their places, and the representatives from 176 (of 494) constituent Lodges. Among the Grand Representatives announced, Bro. J. E. Cadle appeared for Alabama.

The Grand Master's annual address is a long and interesting message, treating for the most part of matters pertaining to his executive duties and suggestions for the good of the Craft, locally, some of which, however, it were well to consider as general, for the evils cautioned against are, alas, too wide-spread, and are not confined to any "local habitation," though not wanting "a name," and one, too, that is known and read of by all men. We refer especially here to his remarks animadverting on "drunkenness and profanity," (we, as he does, yoke them together as one and inseparable,) of which he is very pointed and just in his censures. He also includes in that category his censure of "electioneering for office," of which he says, very appositely:

* * * * * * * * *

If a member has ambition to hold office in the Lodge, and is worthy, his merits will not long be unheeded. Others are in better position to appreciate them than he. It will be unnecessary, as well as unmasonic, in him to parade them. The ambition taught in Masonry is, who can best work and best agree. In the politics of the day it may be permissible to personally solicit support, as "cheek" is thought to be an essential to success in that department of life. But Masonry is not politics, and the principal ingredient of that article must be *brass* when a Mason can take another by the arm and say: "See here, I want you to vote for me for Master or Warden," as the case may be, or perchance for an office in the Grand Lodge. If electioneering for office is an evil in a subordinate Lodge, how much greater in the Grand Lodge! Wherever it exists it cannot be too strongly condemned nor too quickly discontinued. It is a safe rule to adopt to vote for no person for office, either in the Grand Lodge or a subordinate Lodge, who has the effrontery to ask votes for himself.

He says

DRUNKENNESS AND PROFANITY

Are evils that are reported to exist in some Lodges in the State. These are made misdemeanors by our law, and all Lodges in this jurisdiction are commanded to enforce the Masonic law in reference to them. Men whose lives are thoroughly imbued with the excellent and ennobling teachings of the Order cannot voluntarily engage in them. It would be a contradiction of terms to say that any man who loves Masonry also loves to indulge in either of these evils. He must be under the influence of a perverted appetite in the one case, or an odious habit in the other, and should be dealt with in a truly Masonic spirit. The absurdity of a drunkard delivering the lectures of our Ritual on Temperance, or of the very profane swearer instructing the candidate in the duty of reverence for Almighty God, is most apparent to the candidate, who is impressed with the idea that the proceeding is a farce. These evils are mentioned here, not to parade them, but with the hope that, by calling attention to their evil effects upon the good influences that Masonry should at all times and under all circumstances exert, they may be entirely eradicated. The power exists within the Order to correct them in the spirit of fraternity and brotherly love.

Seven charters had been surrendered, and he also announces the arrest of four charters. Gives a good account of the charity work of several Lodges in providing both for the widow and the orphan, and says of the jurisdiction generally, that "peace and harmony prevail throughout," "nothing having occurred during the year to disturb that equanimity that has so long existed in our midst," (not even, we query, the disagreeableness with New Mexico?)

He announces the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in favor of the Grand Lodge in a case involving a claim of $60,000, &c.

He announces several deaths in his jurisdiction, notably the demise of Bro. Wm. H. Crenshaw, R. W. D. D. Grand Master, and also that of Bro. James A. H. Lampton, P. Senior Grand Warden, and also P. Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Missouri. He also refers appropriately to the death of M. W. Bro. Thomas J. Corson of New Jersey, speaking of him as a devoted Mason, whose "natural ability, aided by his scholastic attainments, had placed him among our Masonic leaders," and closes his tribute by an expression of praise, the highest permitted to a Missouri official, we think, saying he was the GOULEY of New Jersey.

He treats of the dispute then pending with the New Grand Lodge of New Mexico, (but we think recently adjusted) and, to our thinking, defends the position of Missouri, and her acts, by reasonings that border too much on the confines of "concurrent jurisdiction." We are a "straight out EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTIONIST;" but as we have said enough "to make a spoon or spoil a horn" on this subject, under the head of Minnesota, it is best to *pass* this opportunity for a new tilt in the direction of controversial scribbling.

He recommended, and the Grand Lodge assented to, the recognition of the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory.

R. W. Bro. Albert G. Mackey, of Washington, D. C., and R. W. W H. Scott, D. G. M. of Illinois, were received and welcomed by the Grand Lodge as distinguished visitors.

We quote a few of the numerous decisions announced by the Grand Master, viz :

A Lodge cannot entertain the petition of a Brother for membership unaccompanied by a dimit, or some other documentary evidence, showing his release from membership in his former Lodge, and the action of the Lodge in so receiving the petition and electing the Brother to membership is null and void. The Brother remains a member of his former Lodge, and may take a dimit therefrom and petition another Lodge for membership.

Suspension for a definite time for any offense does not cancel dues that accrued before the date of suspension. Dues should not, however, be charged against the Brother during the time for which he was suspended.

The Chaplain of a Lodge is an officer thereof when the office is provided for in its By-Laws, and when duly installed cannot resign, and, hence, cannot be legally elected to any other office to be installed before the expiration of his term of office as Chaplain.

(Too much of P. M. degree).

When the Worshipful Master elect of a Lodge has been installed without having previously received the Past Master's degree, he should receive that degree and be then installed, as it has been repeatedly held that the Worshipful Master elect of a Lodge must receive that degree before he can be installed.

It is the law of this Grand Lodge that the officers of a Lodge can neither resign nor dimit; therefore the Grand Master cannot grant a special Dispensation to elect a Worshipful Master, though the Worshipful Master of the Lodge has removed from the State, and the interest of the Lodge may seem to require it.

Quere.—Should the Worshipful Master and Wardens all remove from the jurisdiction of the Lodge and be unable to attend its meetings, who would be authorized to open the Lodge?

And *we* query why not require some Chapter P. M. to officiate, and thus clinch the subordination of Lodges to Chapters?

The R. W. Grand Secretary having asked if he could under a proper construction of the Missouri law dimit from his Lodge, in the interior, for the purpose of affiliating in St. Louis, and not forfeit his Grand Lodge membership, in the interim of transfer of membership, the question after discussion was answered thus—he being a P. G. Master, viz :

From this reasoning the conclusion is reached—

First That any elected or appointed officer of this Grand Lodge, who is either a Past Grand Master, Past Deputy Grand Master, Past Grand Warden, Past Grand Treasurer, or Past Grand Secretary thereof, may

dimit from his Lodge for the purpose of affiliating elsewhere in this jurisdiction, or of forming a new Lodge, without forfeiting his office.

Second— Any Past Grand Master, Past Deputy Grand Master, Past Grand Warden, Past Grand Treasurer, or Past Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge, who may hold a dimit and has not deprived himself of Masonic benefits, and resides in this jurisdiction, is eligible to election or appointment to any office in this Grand Lodge.

The record of minutes under review is full of important matter inviting comment, but as we have little space to spare now, will be compelled to forego the pleasure of a more extended general review, being able to make room only for a brief notice of Bro. JNO. D. VINCIL'S admirable and elaborate report on

CORRESPONDENCE.

He reviews the proceedings of 51 Grand Lodges, and at the close of his report was disappointed (expressionally so) that there were not "more (such) worlds to conquer." We perceive that Bro. V. has very faithfully betaken himself to the new and onerous duties of correspondent, does his work faithfully, not being afraid to object or censure where such treatment is needed, but, the while, judiciously blending the *suaviter in modo* with the *fortiter in re*; as that his opponents have no occasion to feel either incensed or humbled by the opposition encountered.

He has very acceptably and extendedly reviewed the Alabama report of 1878, and we have to thank him for his good words of commendation, highly appreciated and valued we assure him, of our Reportorial effort of that year. He commends Grand Master Armstrong's address and quotes from it approvingly with comments on his decisions, one of which we reproduce, with the decision referred to, as it amplifies the idea intended to be conveyed by Grand Master Armstrong, and gives a good illustration of the necessity for that decision, viz:

We are sorry the Grand Master did not make an addition to the following decision, and go one step further:

Not less than seven Master Masons can hold a Lodge. The charter or warrant authorizing Lodges to assemble and work is granted to seven Master Masons, and no less a number can open a Lodge and transact business than is required to obtain a charter or warrant.

If he had said, "no Lodge shall open except as Master Masons," the argument would have reached a just and consistent conclusion. In the above decision, Grand Master Armstrong wisely concludes that the *number* must not be less to "*hold* a Lodge" than to *form* it under charter. Well, if it requires *seven* to *hold* a Lodge, the *number* cuts an important figure in the legal transaction. Why not require that the *character* be equally as important? If *seven* be necessary to form or *hold* a Lodge, the *status* of the *seven* must be defined. "Master Masons" is the language employed to designate who the corporators shall be—so

says the decision above. Such is the general rule. None but MASTER MASONS can obtain a charter to meet and work. The *character* of the corporators is as important as the *number*. Then does it not follow that the body chartered cannot open at any time, in any other *character* than is known to the law when the charter is granted? viz., *Master Masons*. We think so. It is just as necessary to preserve and maintain the *status* of the corporators in opening a Lodge, as it is to require the *number*—seven—to be present. From these and many other considerations, we believe that every Masonic Lodge should meet and open in its chartered character as Master Masons. Then the *legal* right is in full force, by which the other degrees may be used. When the work is finished in these, *resume* where all authority, corporate or legal, exists, and close that as the chartered body.

He objects as most reviewers have done to our practice (which we think is more honored in the breach than in the observance thereof) of pretermitting the ceremony of installation in the case of officers re-elected, &c.

He compliments the committee on "Suspensions, Expulsions and Appeals" on their sound doctrines anent *drunkenness* and gross profanity, and says: "We have said and written some very plain things on the above subjects in the last twenty years. In no instance have taken ground in advance of the above report. We endorse the principles enunciated by the Alabama Brethren, and place ourself in line with them." * * *

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Joseph S. Brown.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. John D, Vincil (re-elected) Grand Secretary and Chairman of Committeee on Correspondence.
Whole number of Chartered Lodges..... 494.

MONTANA, 1879.

The reports from Montana, of which we have been deprived, by some unaccountable accident or neglect, for two years last past, are again welcomed to our table, reportorial. The volume now before us, is a creditable specimen of North Western typography, acceptably adorned, in the frontal, by a fine steel engraved likeness of Grand Master Jno. Stedman, presenting a face which none can look upon without recognizing in it features that belong to *the true man*, intelligent, earnest, courteous and refined, yet firm and unwavering in allegiance to duty. We never see such a pictured face without a desire to behold that of the original, and to *know* its possessor, too.

A special communication was held at Helena, May 3d, to lay the corner stone of an Episcopal Church. The regular annual, being the

15th anniversary, communication convened in the CITY OF BUTTE, Tuesday, October 7th, A. D. 1879.

Present, Grand Master John Stedman, with most of the Grand Officers (the absentees were the Grand Treasurer, and the two Grand Deacons, Sr. and Jr.) and the Representatives of twelve (of the 18) constituent Lodges.

The Grand Master gives a good and instructive address, devoted in a degree to ethical topics and illustrations, for his "official acts during the year had been few and unimportant." As a specimen of his style and matter, we extract the following paragraphs, viz :

Brethren, we are about to erect another mile-stone on the great Masonic highway, on whose bed the footprints, pointing in but one direction, admonish us that whether we build well or ill we can never retrace our steps to change or improve our work.

Then let us resolve to here build such a monument—founded on the rock of eternal truth, its superstructure raised from the well-squared stones of *Faith*, *Hope* and *Charity*, crowned with the cap-stone of brotherly love—that "those who in their turn shall follow us," shall be constrained to say as they inspect our work, verily our fathers "builded better than they knew;" for inspired by this testimonial of our wisdom and fidelity, they will endeavor to emulate our example, and thus shall our influence for good be extended to the generations which shall succeed us.

Let us apply ourselves to the work before us with a due appreciation of its importance. Let us realize that Masonry is a live institution, and that we are engaged in a work that has a meaning; that the rules and regulations of the order, and the lessons it inculcates, are worthy of our utmost respect.

* * * * * * * *

Ours, of all the orders, societies or fraternities, into which mankind have banded themselves since first the world began, stands pre-eminent in age, in usefulness, and in its universality. It has been upheld and defended through the ages by those who appreciated its value to mankind, and who labored faithfully to perpetuate its tenets, and to transmit them to us "unimpaired" and unaltered.

Shall we still—like our sturdy brethren of "ye olden time"—continue to bear aloft our glorious banner, or shall we suffer it to trail in the dust and be contaminated by willing contact with all the degrading and blighting influences of the times.

Greater dangers threaten Masonry to-day than ever before. We occasionally hear the alarm sounded by some faithful "watchman upon the tower" who descries with clearer vision the coming storm, and warns us to be prepared for its approach. The dangers now most imminent come not from without, but must be looked for within the walls of the Temple itself. The principal of these is the increasing tendency to relax the rigidity of our regulations and break down the barriers wisely erected by our ancient brethren for the safety and protection of the order.

It has been well said, that there are too many Masons, and too little Masonry. Admission to the order is too easily obtained. The *right* of profanes to admission is coming to be regarded somewhat in the same

light as the right of suffrage. One will insist that the loss of an eye, arm, or leg, should not exclude. Another, that a slight moral obliquity should be overlooked in this or that case, and a third would be willing to receive an applicant afflicted with all these defects combined.

* * * * * * * *

He speaks of intemperance, calling it the "*overshadowing curse of the world*," and would gladly welcome a law of Masonry "declaring the making or selling of intoxicating liquors, to be used as a beverage, a Masonic crime, and excluding from the Order (*Fraternity* he means) all who should engage in such occupations." Wouldn't that be such a change in our regulations as he so deprecates in another portion of his address when inveighing against innovations?

His denunciations of intemperance are just and none too strong; but the law he desires to see enacted would engraft a temperance pledge upon our statutes not authorized by the LANDMARKS, *ice opine*. Yet it may be that signs of the times, pointing to this evil as of such devastating and prevalent danger to the public, and to the Craft, may warrant such an innovation as of paramount necessity. We must not stand still and be slaughtered by a fierce and advancing enemy, though our general orders and line of battle (duty) may not have either contemplated the onslaught or suggested the counter-movement requisite to meet the danger. Our ancient Brethren did not know all that was to be, and Masonry is elastic and comprehensive enough to meet and overcome new as well as old emergencies.

He urges attendance and interest in the regular meetings of the Lodges, and thinks the skill of the W. M.'s has much to do with forbidding or eliciting such interest. He does not like the opening and closing in all cases "on the Master's Degree;" thinks it tedious and wearying to the members. In this he opposes opinions prevalent in other and older jurisdictions.

As a general remark, the Grand Master's views were approved by the Grand Lodge, for we observe only one notable objection to his recommendations. The Committee on Jurisprudence having reported adversely to one of his suggestions (explained in the resolutions quoted annexed), and their report was adopted, viz:

Your committee admit that the present system of three ballots might in a very few cases work a hardship, but they believe it the safer plan of the two proposed, and that it is a safeguard which should not rashly be destroyed; that the candidate elected to receive the First Degree, and who has received the same, has received all that the lodge promises to give, and that his desires and wishes should be recognized as subordinate to the member who has passed all the ordeals of Masonic law, and is a member in good standing of the lodge.

To provide only for one ballot on the ground that the candidate should be entitled to have charges preferred and a trial thereupon, is

untenable, as that would not destroy the inherent right of every brother to object without giving his reasons, a right recognized as approved Masonic usage by all jurisdictions.

Your committee would for the foregoing reasons recommend that the law be permitted to stand as it now is, and has been, since the first organization of this jurisdiction.

The Committee on Correspondence made SPECIAL report on Cuban, Scotland-Quebec, and Australian involvements, expressing views similar to those enunciated in our jurisdiction, and advised postponement—saying, with special reference to Cuba and New South Wales (Australia), both at that date applicants, that "we believe ultimate good will be better effected by waiting than in hastening recognition."

The same Committee, in their general report on

CORRESPONDENCE,

From the pen of Bro. Cornelius Hedges, Grand Secretary, for Committee, present a very considerate review of the proceedings of fifty American Grand Lodges, including those of Alabama for 1878. His references to most of the Reports are brief, unsatisfactorily so in some instances, indicating a restraint perhaps in the necessity of avoiding too heavy a printing bill, and yet anxious to do the needful in that department, with proper regard to both duty and courtesy, and thus his *Scylla and Charybdis* are, rhetorically, located at least We hope for other, and frequent, opportunities to read after Bro. Hedges, when his "bark" shall be more heavily loaded with the good things foreshadowed by sample in this cargo, and no lee-shore or threatening *trade winds* shall oppose his passage through the narrows of reportorial sailing difficulties. *Bon voyage* next time!

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Hiram Knowles.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Cornelius Hedges (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Whole number of Lodges.....18.

NEBRASKA, 1879.

Grand Lodge assembled in annual communication—its twenty-second—at LINCOLN, June 24th, A. D. 1879.

Present—James A. Tulleys, R. W. Deputy Grand Master, with full complement of Grand Officers, and the Representatives of sixty-one (of a total sixty-five) constituent Lodges. Among the many Grand Representatives announced as present, we note with pleasure that Bro. James W. Chadduck appeared for Alabama.

M. W. Thomas J. Pickett, "P. G. Master of Masons in Illinois and

Kentucky, (?)" "entered the Grand Lodge and was received with due honor."

Grand Master E. K. Valentine was unavoidably absent, and his annual address was read by the R. W. Grand Secretary. His absence seems to have extended over the greater portion of his official year, and during the period thereof, R. W. D. G. Master, James A. Tulleys, governed the Craft as Grand Master *pro tem.*

There were two addresses, therefore, presented, that of the G. M. being devoted mainly to the rehearsal of the events and ceremonial incident to the death of their late P. G. Master, M. W. Frank Welch, alluded to in these proceedings with great regret and many expressions of admiration and love for his character and works. AMPLE obsequies appropriate to the occasion were observed and conducted by the Grand Lodge (and Lodges) in Norfolk and at Omaha, assisted by Templar escort, and when concluded the coffined body was transferred to Massachusetts, there to be finally interred among the relicts of his forefathers, to mingle with kindred dust. The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts received the corpse with every mark of distinguished respect for the deceased, and with comforting sympathy for its bereaved Escort and their Grand Lodge, buried the body with AMPLE ceremony.

Two dispensations for new lodges were granted.

We copy the only decisions announced by acting Grand Master Tulleys, viz :

1. There is no law in this jurisdiction preventing a Lodge from meeting in the same hall with other secret orders not masonic, but it is not advisable where it can be conveniently avoided.
2. There is no law prohibiting the organization of a new lodge within eight miles of an old one.
3. The recommendation by a lodge of a petition for dispensation does not dimit such of its members as are petitioners.
4. A member of a lodge in another jurisdiction is competent as a petitioner for a Lodge U. D. in this jurisdiction, but the lodge recommending must be satisfied that he is in good standing in his own lodge.
5. An officer of a chartered lodge may also be an officer of a lodge U. D.
6. A ballot should be taken on petition for the degrees or for membership, even if the report of the committee be unfavorable.
7. A candidate has no right to the names of a committee who report unfavorably on his petition.

Question.—Can a Masonic Lodge hold Lodge property in common with a Grange?

Answer.—They cannot.

He had officiated on 22d May (current) in laying the corner stone of a Baptist Church in Alexandria. We are glad to note that the Nebraska Baptists are not quite so antagonistic to our art and ways as in some other regions they seem to be.

Their finances had suffered a $711 11 collapse by the failure of a bank in which the Grand Treasurer had deposited the Grand Lodge funds in his keeping, and in his name as Grand Treasurer. By advice of the Special Committee in charge of that subject, the Grand Lodge ordered that this deficit be demanded of the Grand Treasurer and his boudsmen, and if not paid, suit at law was to be instituted. (Rather severe, we think.)

The Grand Representative of Manitoba made an elaborate report on the "little unpleasantness" in that jurisdiction, which is well written and full; but if he had only waited a little longer, his Grand Lodge would have saved him the trouble of that explanation, and he would not have had the mortification of realizing that the Grand Lodge of Manitoba had "gone back" on its record and virtually admitted the demands of the denounced Schismatics.

The Grand Orator, Bro. George B. France, delivered an address designed to correct the impression affirmation of some that Masonry and Christianity are antagonistic.

The speech is interesting in its development of the moral and truly religious principles and teachings of Masonry, which is well done; but we do not see that he proved more than the spiritual negative of the proposition. The essence of true Christianity and the spirit of Masonry are *one* and indivisible, just as truth and love are one in origin and beneficence. Masonry loves both, and Christianity, pure and undogmatized, hath these common and endurable foundations also; but sect and dogmatic theology has, in the latter days, so contorted christian teaching from its precious and simple original of "love one another," that its present practice and formalities really does seem to antagonize Masonry. Would it were not so!

No report on CORRESPONDENCE.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Rolland H. Oakley.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Wm. R. Bowen (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Whole number of Chartered Lodges.....65.

NEVADA, 1879.

Grand Lodge met in 15th, annual communication in VIRGINIA CITY, Tuesday, 10th June, A. D. 1879. Present, M. W. Grand Master Henry L. Fish, with all Grand Officers and eighteen (of its 20) constituent Lodges represented.

After the opening, in ample form, the Grand Master delivered a concise and well written message rehearsing his administrative acts, and recommending needed legislation.

He announced his gratification on increased interest "in the study of our constitution and regulations" by Masters of Lodges, and the consequent "decrease of applications for information and decisions." Good.

He is infected, we fear, with the "P. Master degree," infatuation or rather, if we may say it, obscuration, for he decides that—

No. 2. No other Past Master being available, the Master re-elect should install the subordinate officers elect of his Lodge, and be re-installed as Master as soon as practicable.

If he alludes to a Lodge P. M. "all right," and that is our construction of this decision.

He alludes to the Scotland-Quebec trouble, and is concise as well as judicious in his statement of the case.

He also speaks regretfully of the conflict of jurisdictions in Cuba, and is hopeful of speedy reconciliation because the contestants "are taking steps to arrive at an understanding" (and it has been consummated).

Their relations with all Grand Bodies, he says, "are most cordial," and he commends the system of Grand Representatives as tending to promote such conditions and be otherwise beneficial.

He disapproves of the practice of demanding the reimbursement, from the Bro. Lodge, of moneys paid to sojourning applicants for charity, and says it is unmasonic.

He desires uniformity of Work, but *above all* favors harmony and the true development of masonic virtues, e. g.:

We should secure if possible uniformity of work throughout the jurisdiction. Without this, the working of the respective Lodges is attended by many evils which other Grand Lodges have met in a proper spirit and overcome. If this can be accomplished by harmonious action the effect will necessarily be very salutary, but if likely to occasion ill-feeling or discord should not be attempted. For however beautiful uniformity in our rituals may be, however perfect our system of forms and symbols, they are valuable only as they represent the Masonic virtues and embellish and adorn Masonic principles. Let us with true wisdom hold fast to the practical and real, wherein lies the strength of our superstructure, while adding all that can beautify without proving an element of weakness. The prosperity of the fraternity depends not so much upon the numbers as the general character and moral standing of those who march beneath its banners. Guard well the portals of your Lodges against unsuitable material. Scrutinize closely the mental qualifications of the candidate. If he is addicted to the vices which by our regulations are defined as Masonic offenses, if he is morose, ill-tempered, selfishly ambitious or unable to brook reasonable authority, allow none such to enter; for the acceptance of one unruly member may prove more detrimental to the interests of the Lodge than the unwise rejection of many good men who as members would honor it.

Our institution needs no other eulogy than the simplest recital of its history. Springing into existence through the yearnings of man's bet-

ter nature to pierce the mysteries and revel in the delights of a higher existence, it ever prompted them to purest thought and action ; and in the "dark ages," when ignorance, depravity and superstition held high carnival, it shone throughout the dreary years a beacon light of hope and promise and led the way to virtue and enlightenment. It has steadily progressed in the past, not through support of the rich and powerful, but as founded upon the eternal principles of the moral law. It progresses in the present, because its impressive lessons meet a hearty response from human hearts. It will progress in the future so long as promptings of man's spiritual being tend to a higher plane of thought and life. It will decline when "belief in the immortality of the soul" and "charity to all mankind" cease to be landmarks ; when temperance, benevolence and brotherly affection cease to be virtues, and when justice, love and truth are no longer cherished as attributes of true manhood.

The proceedings before us are quite interesting in many respects, and not the least of their notable doings was the oration delivered by the Grand Master W. Bro. TREMOR COFFIN, in which he agreeably speculates on the widely divergent opinions existing as to the origin of Masonry. We do not accept Bro. C.'s opinions for we are of the ancient *regime*, but still can appreciate a good address even if its conclusions do conflict with our favorite ideas. He is a very expressive COFFIN, (*lively corpse* —to use the expression of common parlance) and we give a quotation to show how he talks the *dead* past and *live* present, viz :

We are indebted to the ancients, possibly to King SOLOMON, for operative Masonry, and Architecture as a science ; to the ancient Romans for an organized system of operative Masons ; to the Germans of the middle ages for a universal brotherhood of Free operative Masons ; and to the English for Free and Accepted speculative Masonry, which to-day encircles the earth with a chain of benevolence and brotherly love.

In presenting these views and facts, I have not intended, nor been willing to wantonly shake the faith of any brother in the Legend of the Craft that King Solomon organized and presided over a Lodge similar to the one in which we are now convened. But it rather gives me more pleasure to view Masonry as an institution that, in all ages, has adapted itself to the then better instincts and wants of men, an institution which, in all ages, has kept pace and heart and sympathy with the progress of humanity. Freemasonry seems always to have grown more vigorously when it has, to some extent, been under the hand of oppression, or at least under the ban of popular opinion, or when in some way it cost a man something to be a Mason. Then not so many knocked for admission at the door of Masonry simply for the benefits they might derive from it—the "loaves and fishes." Then a greater proportion of the applicants came actuated by a desire not only to enjoy Freemasonry themselves, but to have the good of the institution at heart, and to pass it down, not only unimpaired, but richer and purer for the ejoyment of those who came after. It is a grave question, one that demands the earnest consideration of all true Masons, whether or no the institution, in the remarkable prosperity it has enjoyed in the last half century, is not gathering about it so much dead weight as to

untimately mar, if not ruin, the beauty of proportion and the solidity of structure of its ideal temple.

Another and still more acceptable portion of the proceedings are presented in the general report on

CORRESPONDENCE

By Bro. Robt. H. Taylor, Chairman, who, as he is a judicious and painstaking reviewer, reasoning logically and writing classically, always gives us an enjoyable and useful treat in that department of Grand Lodge labor.

The present report reviews the proceedings of 48 Grand Lodges, including those of Alabama for 1878, to which Bro. T. has assigned ample space, as well as commented freely upon them.

He approves of the sentiments and style of Grand Master Armstrong's address, of the declarations against the Grand Orient of France, and quoting the conclusion of the report of Bro. Titcomb, says it "is worthy of careful perusal." Agrees with the deliverances as to the Cuba-Colon and Scotland-Quebec controversies.

Does not approve of our failure to install re-elected Grand Officers, and says why not *abolish* the ceremony of installation?

He does not approve of our law which prevents Grand Lodge reversal of Lodge judgments in suspensions, &c., from restoring the appellant to Lodge membership, and says of it:

If "justice" be indeed a cardinal virtue, then such amendment ought to be adopted. If a particular Lodge unlawfully suspend or expel a brother, the decision of the Grand Lodge reversing or abrogating such judgment should re-invest the brother with *all* the rights of which he has been so unlawfully deprived. Else full justice is not done. It is not a question of "expediency;" it is a question of *right*.

We would gladly did our limits permit refer to many of Bro. T.'s remarks on the doings and opinions in other jurisdictions, but we must "heigh on" towards *our* conclusion.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Dewitt C. McKenney.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. John D. Hammond (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Number of Chartered Lodges ..... 20.

NEW BRUNSWICK, 1880.

Grand Lodge assembled its thirteenth annual communication in the city of St. John, April 27th, A. D. 1880.

Present—M. W. Grand Master Robert Marshall, with Grand Officers

(6 of whom were appointed to supply absentee vacancies) and the Representatives of 15 (of 33) constituent Lodges.

We note just here that the proceedings of their 12th annual meeting is missing from our catalogue, as our last review--1879—was devoted to the 11th, and that of 1878 including the 10th annual.

The minutes before us indicate a moderately busy session, but devoted mainly to matters of local need and import.

The Grand Master's address is short and comprehensive, yet appropriate. He says of their condition and prosperings :

> We have passed through many changes, yet, in the midst of all this change, the good work which it is the object and aim of our institution to extend and advance--not only in this city of Saint John but throughout the length and breadth of the Province, from the Restigouche to the Saint Croix—has prospered, and to-day peace and harmony prevail, and an abiding faith animates our membership as to the success of our endeavors to give point and force to the work which we all so deeply love. I suppose at no time during the existence of the Grand Lodge has there been so much real quiet in our fraternity ; indeed, it perhaps may not be improper for me to notice the comparative absence of any "hum" in masonry ; and perhaps that is not to be regretted, for, to my mind, our work is of such a character, and is so deeply grounded, that its interests are best advanced by steady, unobtrusive, persistent effort.

Announces, with lament, the death of P. Jr. Grand Deacon Charles F. Bourne of that jurisdiction, and notices, with expressions of sympathy for the Grand Lodge bereaved, the demise of M. W. Grand Master Ismel M. Bulloch of Connecticut.

They had had a successful Masonic Fair, "in aid of the Freemason's Hall," (replacing the one destroyed by fire in 1877) and had a pleasant as well as prosperous "time of it." The Grand Master reports the net profit result at the handsome sum of $5,908 10. This is largely over the average FAIR results.

Among other improvements, they are paying special attention, with successful indications, to the improvement and extension of their Grand Lodge Library.

We like the character business, as well as method of their official reports, including, of course, the work of the committees, of which that of "general purposes" is chief.

The UNITED GRAND LODGE OF COLON AND THE ISLAND OF CUBA, and also the GRAND LODGE OF NEW SOUTH WALES were recognized. Of the latter the committee say that it "appears to have been regularly formed by the *constitutional* number of Lodges, in a colony having local self-government ;" which is *not* our understanding of the matter, and we beg to enquire what is a *constitutional* number of Lodges as applied to the creation of a *new* jurisdiction? We can see no propriety in the use of such terms in that direction. Our information is that a *majority* of

the Lodges in that Province have *not* assented to the proposed change of government, and that consent, wanting the approval of the Mother Grand Lodges—England and Scotland—is the *sine qua non* of the situation.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Robert Marshall (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. William F. Bunting (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Number of Chartered Lodges.....33.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1880.

Grand Lodge met in 91st annual communication at CONCORD, May 19th, A. D. 1880. This was preceded by the usual semi-annual meeting, December 30th, 1879, held "for the exemplification of the work in the three degrees," at Manchester.

Present and presiding on both occasions, M. W. Grand Master Solon A. Carter, and Grand Officers generally, with a good representation from constituent Lodges, at the annual 52 (of 76) Lodges were represented. Several Grand Representatives (but none from Alabama) are recorded as present.

The Grand Master's address is long, but devoted mainly to jurisdictional topics and controversies. Several cases are pending, inherited from previous years; one, at least, against Massachusetts, is of very little force in itself, judging from the elaborate report of the committee, and deriving its animus mainly from a supposed habitual disregard of masonic comity, by lodges of the latter jurisdiction, in accepting rejected material of New Hampshire and working it up without consent, &c. Such acts, if true, as intimated, are likely to produce confusion and ill-feeling.

The Grand Master had refused one application (and granted one) for a dispensation to organize a new lodge. Granted thirty-four *special* dispensations during the year, for legitimate purposes, it is true, but it seems to us that the necessity for some of them is quite problematical, indicating *too much law*, as, for instance, when a public installation of lodge officers requires a special dispensation. We think we see, too, in the Reports of Committee on Jurisprudence and others, though we confess that they are able and well reasoned deliverances, similar indications, for it is evident to our mind, that Rules requiring such displays of legal knowledge and acumen for their illustration, are quite too intricate for the ready comprehension of the average masonic mind.

His decisions relate altogether to local law; in them, however, we note that he opposes legislative incorporation of lodges, and also the

right to claim reimbursement for charities bestowed upon sojourners in one but belonging to another lodge jurisdiction.

The Grand Lodge engaged pleasantly and creditably in the ceremonial dedication of the Soldiers Monument, at Manchester, September 11th, 1879.

In the matter of DISCIPLINE, the Grand Master reminds his Lodge that "it is contrary to masonic law and justice to pass judgment upon any party without a fair and impartial trial," and this has reference to a case of a *snap judgment* by the Grand Lodge at its last session, whereby the Grand Master was forced to *suspend* the charter of his own Lodge (Social Friends No. 42) under a resolution declaring that Lodge guilty of unmasonic conduct, and ordering such proceeding, while at the same time providing for a commission to *try* the, supposed, offending Lodge. The charter was suspended, the Commission tried the case and acquitted the Lodge of intentional disregard of Grand Lodge rules, and the charter was restored. "Justice tempered with mercy," was not the rule in that case.

Excepting in the matters incidentally objected to above, we find no fault with work of this industrious, intelligent and evidently prosperous branch of our great CRAFT family, called by this and other Grand Masters Order instead of Fraternity. We confess to a dislike for that ORDER nomenclature, and consider it unmasonic.

The department of

CORRESPONDENCE

Is represented by an excellent and discriminating report from the pen of Bro. A. S. Wait, who is still at the helm reportorial, and doing good service in his vocation. The Alabama Report for 1878 receives appropriate attention, being one among fifty-five reports of Grand Lodges reviewed in this "deliverance."

Do not fear, Bro. W., as to the Masonic Endowment project, as to Alabama. We squashed it in our jurisdiction; but our sister of Mississippi, alas, has embarked in the insurance (called in the olden time "assurance") business, but this departure, we opine, will not be "for long." It is too radical an innovation to "stay."

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Andrew Bunton.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. George P. Cleaves (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Number of Chartered Lodges..... 76.

NEW JERSEY, 1880.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey held its 93d annual communication in the city of Trenton, commencing January 21st, A. D. 1880.

Present—M. W. Grand Master Hamilton Wallis, with the usual constituents of Past Grand Officers, Past Masters and Representatives of 134 of (a total of 148) its subordinate Lodges.

We note, also, the presence of numerous Grand Representatives, many jurisdictions being thus represented, but Alabama, we regret to say, was not. The visitors, as a general rule, are listed, and the names of their Lodges also given in these proceedings, which is a method quite worthy of remark and imitation.

The book of minutes before us, in addition to its general merit as a faithful record of interesting Grand Lodge proceedings, is adorned with an excellent steel engraving, displaying the manly countenance of P. G. M. ISAAC VAN WAGONER, G. M. from 1860 to 1863, inclusive, with whose character as a notable and most useful Masonic Worthy, all readers of New Jersey records are familiar. He is still an active participant in their Grand Lodge work, as Chairman of an important Standing Committee, and otherwise.

The Grand Master's address is a suitable and able message, presenting many topics of interest to the Craft, which are treated with judgment and earnestness.

He alludes feelingly, in memoriam, to the worthy dead of his own and neighboring jurisdictions, among the former the death of

R. W. THOS. J. CORSON, M. D.,

Is announced with expressions of regret at his loss, and in terms of eulogy and respect well deserved by one whose fame for masonic virtues had become endeared to the Craft abroad as well as at home, for works of signal and general benefit to his fellows.

The Grand Master gives a good account of his Craftsmen, saying:

> I can sincerely congratulate you upon the perfect peace and harmony that has prevailed throughout our borders since you committed into my hands the government of the Craft. The few misunderstandings that have arisen have been easily and speedily put to rest by an appeal to the good sense of the Brethren and their loyalty to Masonry, and without resorting, in a single instance, to the punitive powers entrusted to your Grand Master.
>
> The Brethren generally have striven, with one accord, to live together in harmony and have loyally devoted themselves to promoting the prosperity of the Fraternity. I confidently predict that their faithfulness will be rewarded by an exhibition of unexpected prosperity throughout the jurisdiction.

Under the head of FOREIGN JURISDICTIONS he thus speaks of the Scotland-Quebec estrangement, viz :

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Scotland has seen fit to warrant two Lodges within territory occupied by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Quebec. Although the Grand Lodges upon this continent have, almost, if not quite, unanimously, protested in the strongest terms against this invasion, no attention has been paid to their protests, and the grievance still exists. True, the field thus invaded was once her own, but she surrendered it, and cannot, without the consent of the Grand Lodge in occupation by her acquiescence, resume possession. The fact that an unfortunate dispute has arisen between the two Grand Lodges, and they have severally withdrawn their representatives from each other, cannot, by any course of reasoning, justify such an invasion unless the unwarrantable assumption is made that the recognition of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Scotland is necessary for the existence of a Grand Lodge. On the same principle, that Grand Lodge, not being in fraternal relations with several American Grand Lodges, is vacant territory. Upon this principle, our own territory might be subject to invasion at any time. It is, therefore, due to ourselves as well as to other Grand Lodges, that we should not hesitate to act promptly and vigorously when the proper time arrives. But extreme measures should not be resorted to without the most careful deliberation, and only when it shall appear that there is no other course consistent with the vital principle of exclusive territorial jurisdiction, for which New Jersey has always so vigorously contended.

His decisions are numerous, but relate mainly to jurisdictional law. One decision, viz, "a *majority* vote of the members present is sufficient to excuse a Brother from voting upon a question before the Lodge," was disented to by the "Committee on Jurisprudence and Charity," who report "that a three-fourths vote of the members present at a regular communication of a Lodge was necessary," &c. No reason is assigned for the decision of dissent. We know of no masonic law or rule applicable to the case in question, but are inclined to favor the *majority rule*. The Grand Master issued a list of instructions to Lodges suggestive of principles likely to be touched upon by By-Laws of subordinates, and in it he has as it were forestalled the necessity for future decisions on those points. We quote his instructions in full, remarking that his views as expressed in numbers 2, 3 and 4, are not in accord with our usage, while those of number 5, though undoubtedly true and masonic, are as unquestionably sadly neglected and infringed in most of our Grand Lodge assemblies. We think it a serious evil that such, so-called, parliamentary usages are so generally resorted to, in our Grand Communications, to cut short debate and get rid of topics deemed inappropriate. The effect of all such motions is inimical to harmony and good fellowship :

1. Neither payment of an affiliation fee nor of dues accruing during

dimission, can be required of a dimitted Brother as a condition to his affiliation with the Lodge from which he dimitted.

2. Any By-Law of a Subordinate Lodge prohibiting members who are in arrears for dues, from being elected to or holding office, before they have been regularly suspended, is void.

3. It is in the discretion of the Worshipful Master to call Special Communications of his Lodge. A By-Law *requiring* him to do so, upon the application of any number of Brethren, is, therefore, void.

4 A By-Law which attempts to enumerate Masonic offences is dangerous, and its adoption or continuance is prohibited.

5. Motions to "lay upon the table" and for "the previous question," cannot be entertained in a Masonic Lodge.

6. Dues in a Masonic Lodge should be uniform. A By-Law prescribing different rates of dues for different classes of Brethren, is, therefore, void.

7. The Worshipful Master *only* is authorized to appoint the subordinate officers of his Lodge.

8. Notice of a proposed change in the By-Laws of a Lodge, should be given to every member thereof who can be reached, before action is taken thereon by the Lodge.

9. The duties of the Treasurer of a Subordinate Lodge, as prescribed by the Ritual, are to pay out its moneys *only* by order of the Worshipful Master, with the consent of the Lodge. Any By-Law requiring him to pay the funds of the Lodge to its Trustees or any other person, without such order, is, therefore, void.

10. A ballot once cast cannot be withdrawn.

11. Applications for dimits should be in writing, signed by the applicant. No forms of such application should be prescribed.

12. A Subordinate Lodge cannot prescribe the duties of its Worshipful Master or Wardens.

13. It is the right of *any member* to propose amendments to the By-Laws of his Lodge.

14. The Worshipful Master cannot be required to give to his Lodge his reasons for the exercise of his discretion.

In regard to By-Laws generally, I would recommend to the Brethren, that they be made as short and concise as possible Nothing is gained by prolixity, nor by repeating and re-enacting provisions contained in the Constitution, By-Laws, General Regulations, or Code of Trial of the Grand Lodge. They are for constant use in the Lodge, and should be so short as to be readily retained in the memory of most of the Brethren.

Of the WORK and RITUAL, he says:

I can safely congratulate the Grand Lodge upon the uniformity in the "Work" of the Order which has been attained in New Jersey. We are now beginning to reap the fruits of the long struggle to reach perfection, and are rapidly surmounting all difficulties. That the work, as rendered, is perfect, cannot, of course, be claimed, for the instruments through which it is disseminated are but human. I have always insisted, however, that the work, as rendered by the proper officers, must be received and followed without question or comment. To permit any willful deviation from this course would necessarily result in confusion. The Craft generally, acquiescing in the wisdom of this requirement, whatever may have been the private opinions of individuals,

has endeavored faithfully to conform to the spirit of the resolutions adopted last January.

The Finances are represented by the Grand Master as not satisfactorily conditioned, and he calls the serious attention of the Grand Lodge to the fact that their expenses exceed the income, some about $1,500, caused by a reduction of Lodge dues. He intimates the propriety of increased contributions to relieve this embarrassment, rather than by a resort to piecemeal reductions of their "accumulated fund" to supply deficiencies which should burden present resources and not be thrown upon their "predecessors or successors."

In conclusion he says (we quote approvingly, objecting only to the ORDER *inaccuracy; ours* is a FRATERNITY):

And now our work is before us, let us approach it with a determination to do that which we conscientiously believe will result in the greatest good to all Let us lay aside all selfish thoughts and considerations, and unite heartily in an earnest endeavor to promote the best interests of the Order, that so justly claims our affectionate and loyal devotion. Individually, we are of little moment, but drops in the great stream that rushes on to eternity. Perhaps the sunlight of prosperity may illumine one of us more brilliantly than his fellows, but it is only for a moment, and he is soon lost in the mighty current. The great stream of Masonry has rolled on for ages, gathering new force with every passing year, and will so continue for ages yet to come. The drops that compose it--who and what are they? We can single out a few brilliant ones at our feet, but in a very, very little time they are indistinguishable. How insignificant, then, are personal projects or ambitions; how vitally important that the great river should continue undisturbed in its proper channel; its purity unsullied, its power unbroken to the end.

P. M. CALVIN C. BURT,

Noted under review of Massachusetts, as the vendor of the so-called "Egyptian Rite, &c., and recorded in Michigan as a disturber of the peace of that jurisdiction; is noticed in New Jersey, the starting point of his Masonic career," as a disgrace to the jurisdiction while his name appears upon their roll." But the Lodge to which he belonged in New Jersey had surrendered its charter and as he had not affiliated with any other, but had left the jurisdiction, a difficulty was thus interposed in bringing him to trial and meting out to him his just deserts of expulsion, &c.

Two days of diligent labor sufficed to complete the work of the Grand Communication.

CORRESPONDENCE

Is ably represented in the very acceptable report of Bro. James A. Norton. He reviews the proceedings of fifty-one Grand Lodges, inclusive

of those of Alabama for 1878, and we thank him for his courteous and acceptable references thereto. He also closes his report with a valuable compendium of intelligence from Foreign Grand Lodges.

He speaks moderately and wisely as to the controversies pending between Grand Lodges, involving both jurisdictional rights and the right to recognition—Scotland and Quebec representing the first, and Cuba and Colon (then pending but now adjusted) prominent among the latter class of disputants. Of the Grand Orient of France and her late disgrace he is en rapport with the general American sentiment, and speaks of her being "shunned and disowned as both spurious and dangerous."

Here we have reached the ultimate of our space appropriated to New Jersey and must on to other, but hardly more inviting, repasts.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Hamilton Wallis (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Joseph H. Hough (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Total of Lodges ..... 148.

NEW MEXICO, 1880.

We are glad again to acknowledge the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of NEW MEXICO, the present volume details the work and deliverances of its second annual communication, held at Santa Fe, January 5th, A. D. 1880.

Pleased are we also to observe and record the steady progress of this new sister towards excellence in the wisdom, strength and beauty of true masonic progress and development.

Stationed as she is on the confines of our South-western civilization, surrounded by the mongrel peoples of the once proud and ambitious, but now effete nation of (old) Mexico, or else subject to the contentions and irregularities of nomadic Indian tribes, whose restlessness and barbaric habits render them alike "uncertain and hard to please," and whose fierce war whoop, causing terror to the timid, and admonishing the bravest hearts to caution and preparation for self-defence, follows so quickly upon the lull of periodic peace as to give little token of the war clouds which ever and anon sweep over her valleys with the force of mountain torrents. Here, standing as the advance guard of Anglo-Saxon civilization, resisting alike the terrors of savage foemen and the still more difficult, because insidious and degrading, opposition of a mongrel race, it is, we repeat, gratifying in the extreme that to masonry, through this prosperous and efficient Grand Lodge instrumentality, has been assigned the duty of holding aloft the torch of progress, and guarding these outposts of our American frontier from the disorganiz-

ing effects of savageism and mongrelism combined. That they will conquer the fight, spread the light of truth and charity, conserve peace and promote social and patriotic duty, is already a foregone conclusion. As in California, during its transition period from Mexican rule and habit to American domination, it was MASONRY, with its conservative and enlightened influences, that brought order out of chaos; so now in NEW MEXICO the same gentle but pervasive agency will control the elements of confusion, and bring about the blessed conditions of peace and *establishment*.

At the communication under review, the constituent Lodges were fully represented, and the work of the session, extending through the fourth day, seems to have been efficiently performed.

The disputed control of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, over Silver City Lodge, still claimed (at that date) as under that jurisdiction, though undoubtedly within the territory of New Mexico, is still causing anxiety on the part of the latter, and eliciting from her strong and well-expressed remonstrances.

The Grand Master's address on this occasion, which, by the way, is a first class executive message, discusses very elaborately as well as ably the question of jurisdiction involved in this dispute. We have already "said our say" as to a similar controversy, and are uncompromisingly opposed to any such *limitation* of Grand Lodge sovereignty as the claims of Missouri, if admitted, would necessitate, and will only repeat here the forcible remark of the editor of the KEYSTONE, quoted by G. M. William W. Griffin, in his address, viz:

"*That* Grand Lodge is no Sovereign Grand Lodge which has subordinate Lodges within her boundaries that pay honor and tribute to a foreign body. To term such an Independent Grand Lodge is to misname it. It is but a fractional body—an anomalous Provincial Grand Lodge. It is the creature of circumstances, not a sovereign and independent entity. *Every Grand Body in Masonry must be sovereign.* This is the rightful doctrine of American Masonic law."

Adding that, in our opinion, a Sovereignty restricted is a power impotent to control or govern. INDEPENDENT or SUBJECT is the alternative of Grand Lodge conditions.

Of the condition of Masonry in New Mexico the Grand Master says:

I am much gratified that it is in my power to report that the condition of the Lodges in this jurisdiction is exceptionally good. Peace and harmony have prevailed, leaving nothing to regret but the fact that one Lodge—Silver City*—has made no returns or paid any dues. The

* Silver City is the Lodge over which Missouri claims jurisdiction; but, we judge from the lights before us, it is *governed* by neither Grand Lodge, and is in an anomalous condition, awaiting the decision of the controversy heretofore alluded to, though in the meantime ***reporting*** to Missouri.

other Lodges have all promptly made returns and paid their dues, from which it appears that there has not been a single case of discipline except for non-payment of dues.

There have been few accessions to Masonry in this jurisdiction during the past Masonic year, which of itself is no cause of regret.

The balance of cash in the Grand Treasury was $16 37 on the 31st December, 1879, but was, by voluntary contributions, increased to $346 37 during the month of January, 1880, thus substituting a desirable fulness for the previous shortness of funds.

R. W. David J. Miller, Grand Secretary, was recognized as Grand Representative for Alabama, and P. G. M. Palmer J. Pillans is recorded as the appointee to represent the jurisdiction of New Mexico before the Grand Lodge of Alabama.

The Cuba-Colon contest is ably discussed in a special report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, concluding by recommending the Brethren of Cuba, by mutual concessions among themselves, to reconcile these contentions. In a note appended, the Grand Secretary and Chairman announces the amicable adjustment of the dispute by mutual agreement.

The same Committee made a general and very satisfactory

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE,

Proving that that department, as well as of the book of minutes, is well and properly mastered. In the special report, Bro. Miller is on the record as Chairman, while the general review is signed by Bro. A. L. Huggins, for the Committee, but from *certain indications* we must conclude that Bro. Miller had "a hand in" the last as well as the first deliverance on Correspondence.

However, we are pleased with the report of Bro. Huggins, and welcome him cordially to the fellowship of Reviewers.

The report before us reviews the proceedings of 38 Grand Lodges, and is full of judicious comments thereon.

The Committee possibly are a little too *tart* on MISSOURI, and we are not quite sure but that its retort on the mother Grand Lodge for offences considered provoking, might not have been better left unsaid, in consideration of the appropriate and exhaustive argument on that topic of the Grand Master's address. We quote, in exemplification of this remark, a few paragraphs illustrating the Committee's mode of rejoinder to Missouri, viz :

So, notwithstanding Missouri had acknowledged our Grand Lodge "as the supreme Masonic authority" in the Territory, we are now told by the Grand Master, backed by the Grand Lodge, that we are nothing of the kind—that it was all a joke. But this is not the best of the

joke. After the issue of the edict above quoted and at the same general session the Grand Lodge as solemnly issues another as directly inconsistent with the former as day is to night, as right is to wrong, as truth is to falsehood. But this time the subject is Quebec and Scotland, not poor, dear New Mexico, and here is the edict as to the rights of Quebec:

1. *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Missouri hereby proclaims her firm and unyielding adhesion to the doctrine—so long maintained by her—of the *exclusive* Masonic jurisdiction of every Grand Lodge within the territory to which the authority of said Grand Lodge extends.
2. *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Missouri will sustain the Grand Lodge of Quebec in maintaining its *exclusive* jurisdiction throughout the territory of said Province.

It is not "*my* bull" this time but somebody's else. We would not speak disrespectfully or irreverently of this Grand Lodge, but we cannot forbear to ask if it has not badly stultified itself?

The word "exclusive" is in italics as it comes to us, which indicates that it was to be accepted as expressing its full force emphasized. This word admits of no misconstruction—any one must be the merest sophist who would suggest to it a double meaning. Yet, after the adoption of these recommendations and resolutions, Missouri has placed herself in the anomalous position of announcing to the world that "supreme Masonic authority" does not mean supreme Masonic authority at all, and that "exclusive" may be supposed to mean *anything* or *nothing*.

The Committee review the Alabama proceedings of 1878 quite acceptably, giving them ample space and due consideration, for which our thanks are due and tendered.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. William L. Rynerson.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. David J. Miller (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Total of Lodges..... 4.

NEW YORK, 1880.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of New York has reached its **99th** anniversary, so the record announces, the annual communication of June 1st, A. D. 1880, to have been. It was, as usual, a large assemblage of intelligent Craftsmen, comprising Grand and Past Grand Officers, Commissioners, Trustees, Grand Representatives, (including the Alabama official of that ilk) and the Representatives of 664 (of their 715) constituent Lodges. A body intrusted with the masonic honor and government of over 72,000 active masons, and including among its members so many of the wise and good of the Craft, may well be denominated an August Convention of the Fraternity of New York.

The work of the Grand Lodge, except in the instance of the unsettled jurisdictional controversy with the Grand Lodge of Connecticut

spoken of in our review of the proceedings of that Grand Lodge, and to which we shall again allude, by quoting some of Grand Master Roome's opinions of its merits, from the New York standpoint, related mostly to matters of local concern and import.

Grand Master Charles Roome delivered an excellent address, fully in keeping with the classic annual messages heretofore alluded to as characteristic of the Grand East of New York. It has been our pleasant duty to read and comment upon these very enjoyable productions during our six years of reportorial effort, and we have found them always good, admirable indeed.

The G. M. speaks encouragingly of the condition of the Craft under his overseership, and at the same time notices evils (neglects) not at all confined to New York, viz :

It affords me greater pleasure than I can well express, to say to you that during the year now brought to a close, the state of the Craft in our jurisdiction has been harmonious to an unusual degree ; the matters brought before me have been either simple questions, or an appeal, involving no debate of magnitude, and indeed to be candid, none that might not have been settled by a careful reading of the Constitutions and edicts of the Grand Lodge since 1873 ; at which time it will be recollected all previous resolutions and decisions were abrogated.

This leads me to call your attention to the two great evils of our time. *First*, the apparent unwillingness of the brethren to examine for themselves the written law as set forth in the Constitutions and Statutes of the Grand Lodge—of which every Lodge has, or should have, a copy—and, the ever pressing desire to cure every real or imaginary grievance by an amendment to the Constitution. It is clear, as was well stated by my honored predecessor, that piecemeal amendments can never effect any real good, and that the only way to change any general principle which in itself involves a change of many articles in the Statutes, is to have the whole principle referred to a discreet committee and that the Grand Lodge, after deliberation, pass upon its report. I respectfully reiterate this thought and recommendation and urge you to make no change in our general regulations to meet a single idea, formulated, it may be admitted with the best intentions, but failing in the respect that in nine cases out of ten the equities of the remaining regulations are not considered, and that in most instances to change one is to require that half a dozen others should be reformed in order to conform to the first change.

He had paid as many official visits as possible, and relates his pleasant experiences while thus occupied, viz :

While each meeting has been eminently successful they have appeared to grow in popularity and interest as one succeeded the other.

Had it been possible, I would gladly have traveled to the Masonic homes in the more distant parts of the jurisdiction, taken the hands and applauded the labors of the brethren there, but the many duties of this office and the cares of business prevented the exercise of my personal will. I bear cheerful testimony, however, to the very great success *of*

the undertaking, and while I live I shall never forget the pleasant and fraternal greeting of the brethren; their boundless hospitality, the prompt and cheerful assistance of the Associate Grand and Past Grand Officers and the kindly and genial sentiments evoked.

I very respectfully commend to my successors in office a continuance of this plan, until in time every District in the State shall have been the recipient of official courtesy, and the most inaccessible Lodge in the jurisdiction be given to know that it is not and cannot be beyond the pale of Grand Lodge solicitude and protection.

It has been my additional privilege to visit a considerable number of individual Lodges, and to participate with the brethren in their labors, their pleasures, and their sorrows, and on all these occasions there has been in the greeting of the brethren an assurance that in their faithful devotion this Grand Lodge has a sure foundation against which the waves of enmity may surge in vain.

He thus commends their newly established

BOARD OF RELIEF:

In compliance with the resolution of the Grand Lodge to be found on page 94 of the printed Transactions of 1879, I called a meeting of the Masters of Lodges in this city to consider and pass upon the matter. The notice received a generous response and the subject a careful and fraternal consideration. The result of several meetings was the re-establishment of the Board under such laws as, in my judgment, can hardly fail to make it a most valuable adjunct to the benevolent operations of the Craft and a shield against the wiles of tramps and impostors.

I do not recommend any appropriation from the funds of this body, because it seems to me that the true intent of the establishment of the Board is not to give the largest amount of money possible, but rather to secure the best means of preventing the appropriation of our funds to the unworthy.

The Lodges in this city give annually thousands of dollars to the applicants at their doors, without positively knowing whether such applicants are worthy or not. The cry of distress reaches their ears and, generally, they do not stop to consider whether it is simulated or true. An apparently hungry brother or a widow claiming to be in distress, has a response in the opening of the purse strings under the assumption that who giveth to the needy lendeth to the Lord.

Long experience has convinced me that this is not the true plan; for, while I would cheerfully divide my last loaf with a worthy brother in distress, I should hate to give a dime to the guild that lives by imposing upon the best and most generous feelings of our nature, yet I know that very many of our dollars are thus given.

The correct idea seems to be that what we most needed was system in our giving, and this being secured an insignificant sum from each brother would aggregate sufficient for all needed purposes. I believe the plan now in operation to be as near perfect as our present knowledge can make it, and if reasonably supported, that it will be the means of great benefit to the Lodges as well as to the worthy of our household temporarily in want.

He is hopeless of securing justice from Germany while, as a general

rule, the relations with Grand Lodges on this continent are pleasant. He discourses of these relations as follows, viz :

GENERAL RELATIONS.

With the Grand Lodges on this Continent with which we are now in correspondence, our relations continue to be of the most gratifying character. Abroad they are simply nominal. Generally speaking the American theory and practice of jurisdiction has but slight respect at best, while in more than one jurisdiction it is set at defiance. Argument and entreaty have alike failed to secure respect for what we deem our inalienable rights. Especially is this the case in Germany, where they not only aid and abet clandestine organizations in this country, but do not give our complaints even the poor compliment of a notice. Official letters addressed to them remain unanswered, and if they be not hostile they at least show no signs of a friendly feeling towards us. A careful examination of the status does not afford any encouragement, and yet I am unwilling to recommend any measures that may simply tend to "more embroil the fray." Only it seems to me that we have done our whole duty in the premises ; that we have labored and waited until now, forbearance would seem to be no longer a virtue. If then the relations that have heretofore existed are chilled by neglect we can fearlessly assert that the fault is not ours, and that their renewal must depend upon the willingness of the German Grand Lodges to acknowledge our right of sovereignty within our own territories, and that to interfere with such right, directly or indirectly, is an insult to our intelligence and a contempt of our just powers as Masonic communities, willing to confine our exercise of authority within our own limits, and unwilling that any one else should interfere with us either by directly creating Lodges here, or organizing those deemed and declared by us to be clandestine.

Of Connecticut under the same general head he thus speaks, the WEBOTUCK controversy, heretofore explained, being the subject of dispute, viz :

Upon receipt of the printed transactions of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, and feeling that in view of the manifest intention of the Grand Lodge of that State to adhere to its original position, further efforts to procure a fraternal adjustment were useless ; I communicated with the Grand Master of Connecticut, reiterating the principles contended for by this Grand Lodge, informing him that I had withdrawn the powers of our representative near his Grand Lodge, and should no longer recognize those of the representative of Connecticut near us, and that until your pleasure was made known all further official intercourse between our respective Grand Lodges must cease.

Immediately thereupon, desiring to be able to lay before you the fullest and most satisfactory information as to the facts out of which this deplorable necessity arose, I directed the D. D. G. M. of the 9th District (.R W. RALPH E. PRIME) and the Secretary of Webotuck Lodge to procure all available information with regard thereto, and report the same to me.

Their reports have been furnished me, and with all other papers relating to the subject will be placed before you.

From these reports not only do the facts appear which justify our complaint; but it further appears that, in addition to Bros. WOODWARD and KNIGHT, four other members of Webotuck Lodge, all residents within this State, were permitted to become petitioners for the granting of the dispensation to Hamilton Lodge, and were among the persons to whom such dispensation was issued.

The cases of the four brethren last referred to will not require your attention, as no question has arisen respecting them, and mention of them is made only as illustrating the extent to which the Grand Master of Connecticut was willing to accept brethren whose membership and residence were alike in New York, as being proper persons to whom to grant a dispensation for the formation of a Lodge in Connecticut.

In the recent report of the Committee on Jurisprudence of Connecticut, it is asserted that at the time of signing the petition for the new Lodge, Bros. WOODWARD and KNIGHT were both residents of Connecticut, and so far as the residence of Bro. WOODWARD is concerned much misapprehension has existed upon both sides, but the papers herewith submitted contain ample evidence that, as I have previously stated, Bro. WOODWARD was at the time in question, and for years after, an actual resident within the State of New York. Yet, however this may be, under the principles to which I shall briefly call your attention, it will be seen that the fact of his membership in Webotuck Lodge being fully conceded, it is of no consequence whether he resided in Connecticut or in New York.

You are now possessed of all the facts relative to this subject, and it is in your hands for such action as you may deem it proper to take.

The position taken by this Grand Lodge has been fully stated by our three recent Past Grand Masters in their Annual Addresses, and it is not my purpose to repeat to you the arguments wherewith they have maintained the accuracy of our position. I shall therefore content myself with calling your attention to certain fundamental propositions, the truth of which is self-evident, and which alone suffice to make plain the righteousness of our claim.

We maintain:

First.—That membership in a New York Lodge can neither be created nor destroyed save by the operation of New York law.

Second.—That membership in a New York Lodge is not affected by the residence of the member. A member of Webotuck Lodge residing in Connecticut owes precisely the same duties and allegiance to the Lodge as a member residing in New York.

Third.—That the laws of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut have no extra territorial force, and cannot create, destroy, or in any wise affect membership in a Lodge beyond that State.

We quote the New York illustration of this apparently local controversy at some length because the principle involved is of general masonic interest, and of its relation to the true theory of Grand Lodge jurisdiction.

The Grand Master recommends that the Committees on Finance, Grievance, Jurisprudence, &c., be required to meet and prepare their reports in advance of the annual Grand Lodge communications.

The RITUAL claims the attention of the Grand Master, who says of it:

It is known to many of you that for something like twenty-five years this Grand Lodge has been engaged in an effort to discover and establish a correct standard of work for the several degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry under its charge, and to promulgate the same to all the Lodges in its jurisdiction. I venture nothing in saying that a very great success resulted from the long and persevering effort, and that, perhaps, in no other jurisdiction in the world, could the same number of Lodges be found working with the same degree of uniformity. Among the methods leading up to this success was the holding of lecture conventions in the various districts under the immediate charge of the Grand Lecturer, and thus at least annually, the several Lodges were afforded an opportunity to refresh their memories and compare notes with the legal custodian of the work.

At our last Annual Communication, the Grand Lodge, by resolution, relieved the Grand Lecturer of the duty of holding conventions as heretofore, and this seems to have been interpreted by the Lodges generally as consent for each one to follow its own inclinations in the matter of work. True, the constitutional provisions in regard to the standard work is still in force, and while admitting the desire of the brethren to obey the provisions of that instrument, still we cannot ignore the fact that the natural tendency of men is to stray from fixed standards depending on the exercise of memory for their correctness. Already within my own observation changes are occurring, and it may be taken as absolutely certain that, in course of time, we shall gradually drift back to the point of twenty-five years ago and find ourselves confronted with the task of once more establishing uniformity.

I do not permit myself to arraign the wisdom of the Grand Lodge nor to give expression to mere sentiment; but only to call your attention as your executive to a process already begun and which will rest with you for action should you deem it wise to take any.

But this seems to be and is true; if you desire to preserve uniformity in your work; if you wish to prevent the Lodges from derogating back to the time when every Lodge had a system of its own, then the ritual must be confided to the care of a single brother, and he must devote a large portion of his time to the proper discharge of his duty.

He recommends a centennial celebration in 1881, but adds and urges "that whatever may be done to celebrate the event be modest, and not involving any needless expenditure of money."

The Hall and Asylum Fund debt had been decreased in 1879-80 $36,468 48, leaving $668,520 26 unpaid to June 1st, 1880.

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE,

Signed by the Committee, Bro. John W. Simons, Chairman, is briefer than usual, but of standard excellence. It reviews the proceedings of 58 Grand Lodges, including those of several European Grand Bodies. The report of Alabama for 1879 is favorably reviewed, and the approval expressed of our doings in that year is thankfully acknowledged.

We are especially pleased that decisions Nos. 3 and 4 of Grand Master H. C. Armstrong, meet the "entire" approval of a Committee whose opinions we esteem in the light of "eminent authority." We agreed

with the Grand Master, but our Grand Lodge disapproved those decisions. To make the reference more clear, and bring the subjects thus approved to the front, we reproduce the decisions referred to, as well as the New York comments thereon, viz:

The annual message give a concise but fair review of the official business of the year.

From the reported decisions we take the following, and entirely agree with the conclusions of the Grand Master:

"3. That when an appeal is taken to the Grand Lodge by a brother who has been suspended or expelled by a subordinate Lodge, and the decision of such Lodge reversed by the Grand Lodge, the status of such a brother is that of an unaffiliated Mason. This decision I have made in obedience to Rule 19, Article 7, of our Constitution. This I think is a singular provision of our organic law and one that should be revised and amended. In my opinion, it divests the Grand Lodge of the power and authority that rightfully belongs to it in such cases, and works a hardship where no hardship should be suffered. For instance: A brother is tried, and is suspended or expelled by a subordinate Lodge. From this sentence he appeals. The Grand Lodge decides, after carefully considering all the testimony, that the charges are not sustained, and reverses the decision of the Lodge below; yet the appellant has, under the rule above cited, to suffer the loss of Lodge membership, thereby undergoing a punishment when no offense had been committed. Why not make the reversal full and complete, and restore the brother to the position he occupied before the wrongful finding of the Lodge below?

"4. When a party has received the E. A. degree, and makes application to be passed, if there is any moral reason why he should not advance, the member in possession of such reason should report the same to the prosecuting officer of the Lodge, and have charges preferred against him. To this the applicant is entitled on every principle of justice and equity. After his initiation he, to that extent, is adopted into the Masonic family, and is invested with certain rights and privileges, and among them the right to be heard in his defense. If unworthy to be advanced, he is unworthy to retain what he has, and should be tried and expelled."

The Grand Master had visited some forty Lodges, selecting in preference those not easily accessible, and thus giving the benefit of his official presence to those most in need of it. We must all agree that he deserves great credit for his discernment, and that Masonry in Alabama is his debtor.

Of affairs Masonic in Spain, the Committee say:

We have received a circular dated at Madrid the 25th day of February of the present year, and claiming to be a statement of the officers and constituent Lodges of the "symbolic Grand Lodge of Spain." It seems proper to explain that there are in Spain some half dozen organizations, claiming to be regular, but all conducted by schismatics. We can therefore recognize none of them; but events occurring during the past year lead us to suppose that ere long there will be an arrangement by which the symbolic degrees will be separated from the Supreme

Council, and establish one regular government for the various Lodges. When that is accomplished, we shall be happy to extend recognition.

The report closes with the following just and pertinent

REMARKS.

It will be noticed that our present report on the German Grand Lodges is considerably less elaborate than heretofore. It is made so designedly.

For more than twenty years the Grand Lodge of New York, in behalf of Masonry in the United States, has, to use the expressive phrase of the Virginia Committee, "Tiled the door for the rest." We have labored in every possible way to obtain recognition of a principle we can not and will not abandon—the right of exclusive jurisdiction in our own territory over all matters of Ancient Craft Masonry. The result obtained is an offer to allow us to establish Lodges of our obedience in German territory.

If our friends over there were really serious in making this proposition, and we were inclined to accept it, two difficulties would stand in the way. *First*, we should be violating the very principle for which we are contending by creating Lodges beyond the lines of our territory; and, *secondly*, as stated last year and more specifically set forth in this report, the German law distinctly sets forth the fact that such Lodges would not be allowed to exist.

It seems idle, therefore, for us to be printing arguments to which those to whom they are addressed are determined not to listen, or in the attempt to conciliate those who, if not openly hostile, are clearly not friendly—except in fine phrases—to the Masonic powers of the United States.

Our proposition is that we quietly cease relations with the German Grand Lodges and cease advertising them until it shall appear that they have at least some color of interest in our welfare and a desire, however faint, to recognize our right to attend to our own business in our own Masonic household without the interference of parties three thousand miles away.

The ultimate intention of our brethren in Germany may be right, but it must be admitted that they have a dreadfully poor way of showing it, and we now take the liberty in behalf of the Grand Lodges of the United States of saying that until such acknowledgment as we have asked for is made, our roads will diverge, and if we at length get so far apart that we can no longer hail each other it will be the fault of those who, after long years of persuasion, have refused to recognize what is clearly our right.

In the Scotland matter we advise that, so far as this jurisdiction is concerned, no steps be taken for another year, the impression seeming to prevail that an adjustment will occur during that time.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Jesse B. Anthony.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. James M. Austin (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Total of Lodges.....715.

NORTH CAROLINA, 1879.

On the 2d, 3d and 4th days of December, A. D. 1879, the M. W. Grand Lodge of North Carolina held its 93d annual communication in the city of Raleigh, as the excellently arranged and printed volume of proceedings before us attests, while giving a full and interesting record of the proceedings then had.

Present, M. W. William R. Cox, Grand Master, with many of his associate Grand Officers, several Past Grand Officers, and the Representatives of 111 constituent Lodges. No Grand Representatives are named as present.

The Grand Master's annual address is an appropriate executive message, abounding in pertinent and practical suggestions.

He does not speak definitely of the condition of the Craft in his jurisdiction, though we see no distinct indication of cause for reticence in that regard. What he does say is this (in part at least, and it is, we confess, suggestive of anxiety as to the general situation), viz:

Whether it is now prospering within this jurisdiction depends upon whether you have faithfully and diligently acquitted yourselves of the responsibilities committed to your charge. This grand body is composed of the officers of the subordinate Lodges, and from these members we must learn of our condition. Wherever you shall find a bright and fearless Master, assisted by a prompt Secretary, you will see a flourishing and well-regulated Lodge; but wherever you discover these officers ignorant and indifferent, you will find the Lodge in arrears, and in all probability be importuned with petitions for the remission of the dues, which self-respect requires should be promptly met, and dimits and decay mark its downward course.

These remarks do not apply in their full force to sparsely settled neighborhoods, where it is not always practicable to receive proper instruction, nor convenient to secure a punctual attendance; nor to those who have suffered unanticipated losses. In your reports for the current Masonic year, brethren, render no halting apologies for duties omitted. Remember that "words are but leaves, acts are the fruit." If you have been remiss, frankly admit it, and amend your conduct in the future. In our mystic language, be not content to enter the temple whose over arching dome rests upon the pillars of Wisdom, Strength and Beauty, with false pretence, which will in all probability cause the rejection of your petition and produce an irritating mortification.

His decisions are numerous, and only one of them relates to a matter of general interest, this we quote annexed. It seems that Scotland's free hand in dispensing masonic favors to stranger applicants for the Symbolic degrees has touched upon the rights of the old North State as well as other American jurisdictions, and in this case as is always possible if not probable in such irregular practices, she has extended her impulsive favors to *rejected* material, viz:

1. A profane applies for admission into a Lodge in this State and is rejected. He goes on a visit to his native land, Scotland, and while there receives the degrees. Upon his return to his home he presents his credentials and applies to enter the Lodge.

The Lodge should not receive him. He was a sojourner while abroad, and could only have been admitted into the Lodge in Scotland by withholding important information, to-wit: the fact of his application and rejection in North Carolina. Surely he could not have been initiated had this been communicated to the Lodge in Scotland, unless that Lodge had been strangely unobservant of the common law of Freemasonry, that is, that a candidate must apply for the degrees where he resides and is best known, and that one brother shall not supplant another in his work.

He discusses forcibly several questions of more than local interest, and among them we note his remarks on the Grand Master's prerogatives, non-affiliation, economy, &c., as just and discriminating. He recommends that the standing committees meet prior to the session of the Grand Lodge, and to this the Grand Body assented by requiring them to meet for consideration of business and preparation of reports, THIRTY days before each annual communication.

The Grand Secretary presented a general and very interesting report, suggesting some matters of importance to the Craft as viewed from his official standpoint. Among them he calls attention to irregularities governing procedures in suspending members for non-payment of dues. This subject is very properly alluded to as worthy of serious consideration, for fault or impropriety exists somewhere evidently, when, as this report shows that, in an organization comprising less than 7,000 enrolled members, the suspensions for N. P. D. exceeded 1,700 from 1875 to 1878, inclusive, and suggests the following results since (the latter year we suppose), viz:

"And it is estimated, from the returns already received, that, with the Masonic year of 1879, the number will exceed two thousand. It is evident that an edict is necessary to supply the deficiency in the uniform Code of By-Laws, applicable to only such Lodges as have no such regulation."

Would not a little more *leniency*, *benevolence*, or say CHARITY to the poor of the fraternity help to reduce these losses?

The committee on "the advisability of establishing an insurance feature," asked to be continued "with permission to report to the next annual communication."

We hope for an unfavorable report on that unmasonic new departure.

A very good

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE

Is presented by Bro. R. T. Gray, for the Committee, in which he re-

views with judgment and discrimination the proceedings of 41 Grand Lodges.

His review of Alabama—Report of 1878—is acceptably full and courteous, and we thank him for special complimentary reference to ourself and his just appreciation of the annual message of Grand Master H. C. Armstrong.

We are traveling rapidly now towards the close of our journey (report), and being limited both as to time and space, must pretermit much that we would like to say of this report. Brother Gray closes his report as follows, but we have to urge that his embodiment now under inspection lacks nothing of being well dressed, though its *train*, unlike that of the feminine toilet, is not long nor is its make-up, in any respect, inappropriate or superfluous.

We quote his

CONCLUSION.

Our work is done. It was greater than we anticipated, and required more time and labor than those who have never undertaken the task would estimate.

The writer is not a gentleman of leisure; if he were, the report would have been certainly completed at an earlier date, and perhaps, would have been more presentable in appearace.

Mrs. Scott Siddons, in apologizing for her tardy appearance, said to an audience here the other night, that having just arrived on the train, with no time for food or rest, she had but little time to make her toilet, "and every lady knows," said she, "that half an hour is not enough to make a toilet."

The writer has been hurried, delayed and impeded by various circumstances; he has had but "half an hour" to do his work, but if it could look half as well as Mrs. Siddons in her hurried toilet, or be received with half the admiration that famous reader won, the writer could not even dream of a better reception for his report.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. William R. Cox (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Donald W. Bain (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Total of Lodges..... 231.

NOVA SCOTIA, 1879.

This M. W. Grand Lodge has passed the ordeal of its fourteenth annual communication, held at Halifax, Wednesday, June 4th, A. D. 1879, as the proeeedings thereof assure us, in harmony and moderate prosperity; though we regret to note that there is a little inconvenient and embarrassing shortness in the AMPLE fund and revenues. Present, at this communication, M. W. Grand Master John Wimburn Laurie, with all Grand Officers, many Grand Representatives, including R. W. Bro.

Robert Frasier who did the needful, in that honorary position, for Alabama, and forty-six (of 63) constituent Lodges represented.

Preceding the annual, an Emergent Communication was convened at Halifax, July 17th, 1878, charged with the duty and honor of conducting the ceremonial and laying the corner stone of the building to be erected and occupied as a HIGH SCHOOL in that city. The ample proceedings, including several interesting addresses, of that occasion are fully set forth in the minutes before us, and everything seems to have been said and done that was requisite to the completeness of the ceremony.

Grand Master Laurie's address to the annual assemblage was appropriate and well expressed.

He speaks of the incorporation of Lodges (civil), and very justly disapproves thereof as "subversive of the true principles of Masonic government." Alludes to the Quebec-Scotland difficulty, and the trouble in Manitoba, as regretable incidents of the general Masonic status, saying of the former:

> Whilst congratulating ourselves on the entire absence of vexed questions within our own jurisdiction, we have to notice with deep regret that two of our sister Grand Lodges in the Dominion have not been so fortunate. The Grand Lodge of Scotland has seen fit to ignore the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and to assail the doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge sovereignty. These two supreme bodies have severally withdrawn their Representatives from each other, and the Grand Lodge of Quebec has issued an address to all Grand Lodges throughout the world, calling attention to this invasion of territory. Like Moses with his fellow Israelites, we would willingly address each party, "Sirs, ye are brethren;" but it is more desirable that, to avoid such a rebuff as the great Hebrew received, we should unite with other Grand Lodges on the Continent in maintaining what we have considered as our recognized right; and some organization for joint action in such cases seems desirable.

And of the latter:

> In Manitoba also a serious trouble has arisen, but from causes within the Grand Lodge, and not from external action. I am not prepared to submit to Grand Lodge, in an official form, such hearsay evidence as I have obtained. It is much to be regretted that difficulties should have arisen in that most progressive portion of our New Dominion; but the very temperate action of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba at its late meeting will, it is hoped, admit of the opposing elements amalgamating, and if so, as it is to be sincerely desired will be the case, an increase of moderation will, without doubt, govern the councils of the Masonic body there, and result in the restless energy of the active spirits who have made the Prairie Province their home, running parallel instead of counter, and so giving a great impulse to Canadian Masonry.

The last remarks being somewhat prophetic of results since proclaimed as of actual occurrence.

The report of the Grand Secretary, R. W. Benjamin Curren, is one

among several able papers presented to the consideration of the Craft at this communication. His statistics are well arranged and interesting, as they present in figures the history of the jurisdiction from 1870 to 1879, inclusive, showing the gradual increase of the members from 2,150 in 1870, to 3,400 in 1879, and giving the losses during the same period, and stated by years from suspensions and dimissions, at 2,510, aggregate. He speaks of the growing evil of non-affiliation, and makes several useful suggestions looking to the decrease of that and other serious obstacles to progress.

CUBA and New Mexico were recognized as Grand Lodges and cordially welcomed as such.

Appropriate action was taken to remedy the deficiency in revenue, including, of course, a reduction of expenses in some departments, but not that of "publishing reports," we are glad to say, for that sort of economy we are apt to consider as of the "penny wise and pound foolish" variety.

We noticed in our last report (1879) the appointment of a Special Committee to consider, and report at this meeting, the propriety and means of enforcing the "total abstinence" resolution adopted in 1878, (and which suggested to us the fear of innovation if such action was persisted in to its ultimate.) This committee failed to report, and on motion was relieved of "further duty," of which result we make special and grateful mention. Temperance is one of the cardinal virtues taught and illustrated by Masonry; but the TOTAL ABSTINENCE pledge is not a part of the Mason's O. B.

The proceedings close with a very good and acceptable

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

Reviewing the proceedings of 51 Grand Lodges, among which those of Alabama—Report of 1878—are included. We are pleased to say, too, that both in the space assigned to our report and in the comments thereon, the committee have given us due and considerate attention.

This report is signed by Bro. A. H. Crowe, for the Committee, but in his "conclusion," which we reproduce annexed, he acknowledges his indebtedness to others for a portion of its labors and merit, viz:

CONCLUSION.

In closing this report I have *again* to apologize for not having performed any portion of the labor of preparing it. When the Standing Committees of Grand Lodge were drafted, my name was placed on the Foreign Correspondence Committee as Chairman, much against my wish, not because I objected to the discharge of any duty that might be assigned me by Grand Lodge, but from the then existing state of my health, I was afraid that I could be of no service to the Committee.

The result has been just what I anticipated. My associate committeemen, the Rev. D. C. Moore and Rev. Richard Wainwright, have had nearly all the work to do. I therefore gladly avail myself of this opportunity of tendering these brethren my warmest expression of thanks for their kindness in relieving me from duty, and trust that the brethren of our jurisdiction generally may derive as *great* pleasure in the perusal of their reviews as they have shown brotherly regard in their consideration of me.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. J. Wimburn Laurie (again re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Benjamin Curren (again re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Total of Lodges..... 68.

OHIO, 1879.

The seventieth grand annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Ohio assembled in Cincinnati, October 21st, A. D. 1879, and was opened in Ample Form by M. W. Bro. William M. Cunningham, Grand Master. Present, also, numerous GRAND and PAST GRAND OFFICERS, Grand Representatives (no one representing Alabama) and delegates from "over two hundred chartered Lodges."

The annual address, which Bro. Caldwell, R. W. Grand Secretary, singularly introduces to his readers, headed "COMMUNICATION OF THE GRAND MASTER," but which is really and truly an elaborate, dignified and appropriate annual executive message, was read by Grand Master Cunningham, and is a clear and perspicuous report of his official acts and observations for the year, then, just past.

We regret, with him, the duty of announcing, at the opening of his address, the loss of one who had served the Craft well and instructively. We quote his remarks on this bereavement as follows :

> The vacant chair, draped with emblems of mourning, directed to be placed in the East of this Grand Lodge, reminds us that during the recess of this Grand body we have been called upon to mourn the removal to another world of our well-beloved brother, GEORGE REX, a distinguished Past Grand Master of this Grand Lodge. Bro. Rex was the last survivor of that trio of eminent and scholarly Masonic jurists—Past Grand Masters William B. Hubbard, Thomas Sparrow, and George Rex—who contributed so much to the judicial literature of this Grand body, and who, by their courteous regard for the rights of every brother, the jealous care with which constitutional enactments and the landmarks of the Craft were observed, their executive ability and legal acumen, ever maintained the high position of this Grand Lodge among sister jurisdictions. Having been honored with the warm personal friendship of our late distinguished brethren, but few, if any, of the Craft had a better opportunity of knowing them than the writer, although much their junior. In this connection, having for many years enjoyed the personal friendship of Bro. Rex, and having had in so

many instances the advantage of his large and varied Masonic experience, it is but due to his memory to say that no brother was entitled to a greater degree of Masonic love and respect at his hands, or at the hands of this Grand Lodge, than our lamented brother.

His record of dispensations for elections, &c., and the list of proxy substitutes to represent the G. M. in various official acts, appointments are long, unusually so, suggestive of a possible want of method in the Lodges, or else of too much Grand Lodge governmental control of the Craft, requiring more of personal supervision than the G. M. could possibly give save by means of numerous substitutes, or proxies.

The Grand Master gives a pleasant report of his "official visitations," which, though not numerous, were gratifying to him; especially was this the case with the visit to, and conference with, Bro. Wm. J. Reese, "the oldest living Past Grand Master of this Grand Lodge," as well as useful to the Craft. We judge from the general tenor of this address that things of Masonic import, are prospering in Ohio.

The Grand Master's decisions are good, and we quote a few that are of general interest, viz:

An applicant for degrees having been initiated by a Lodge within whose jurisdiction he had not resided the proper time prescribed by the Code therefor, and complaint having been made by the Lodge within whose jurisdiction the applicant formerly resided, claiming the fees in such case,--held that the fees must be paid over to the Grand Lodge, neither lodge having any legal jurisdiction over the applicant.

Concerning restoration from suspension for non-payment of dues.—Held that a Lodge *must* receive, when tendered in a proper manner, the amount of the indebtedness of a member suspended for non-payment of dues; and, in case of no charges pending, such payment restores the suspended member to his previous standing.

The private business affairs of a Lodge, the names of its candidates, initiated, passed, or raised, and its list of suspensions or expulsions, are not matters in which the general public have any interest; hence *any publication* of such matters in the newspapers of the day is unmasonic, and renders the offender amenable to Masonic discipline.

Each stated meeting of a Lodge is complete within itself, except as to business deferred by its own action, or as provided for by its own By-laws or the regulations of the Grand Lodge.

Congressional "Parliamentary Law" is in all cases subservient to Masonic Law within the lodge-room, and only prevails where there is no Masonic rule upon a given subject.

We note no unusual incident as characterizing these proceedings, except possibly the minute that—

On motion of Grand Secretary Caldwell Bro. Theo. Sutton Parvin, of Iowa City, Iowa, was constituted an Honorary member of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, with rank of Past Grand Secretary.

A compliment or courtesy well deserved, but not permitted under Alabama Grand Lodge rules.

We must not forget to remark upon the *Vignette*, which adorns the frontispiece of this book of minutes, representing the features of Bro. Caldwell, the R. W. Grand Secretary of Ohio. We have examined it to see if we could discover in its features, very presentable one, or expression, mild and yet earnest, any solution of the question, why is he so peculiar (as respects other Grand Officers) in his thought and method, but without satisfactory explanation of the phenomenon. He is apparently a man like unto the generality of men.

THE REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE

Is concise to a fault, regretably so. We quote all that is said of ALABAMA. It is brief, but as full and perhaps as accurate as any of the reviews of this Report:

Fifty-eighth Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge convened at Montgomery, 2d day of December, 1878, with M. W. Henry C. Armstrong as Grand Master; R. W. Henry C. Tompkins, Deputy Grand Master; Daniel Sayre, Grand Secretary.

The representation was from 218 Lodges.

The Grand Master's report is particularly full of Masonic good sense.

The present officers are the same as of last year.

Oliver S. *Beebe* is Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Reuben C. Lemmon... .....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. John D. Caldwell (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Total of Lodges.....476.

OREGON, 1879.

The twenty-ninth annual communication of this Grand Lodge assembled in the city of PORTLAND, on Monday, the 9th day of June, A. D. 1879.

Present, M. W. Grand Master Robert Clow, with Grand Officers, Grand Representatives (M. W. J. R. Bayley appearing of that number as representing Alabama), and the representatives of "sixty-two chartered Lodges with delegates from six Lodges U. D."—so the minutes declare (but the recapitulation of statistics claim only 61 chartered and 3 U. D.—there is some *error* here!).

A busy session of three days, devoted mainly to matters of local concern, was required to dispose of the necessary labors of this communication.

The Grand Master's address is a thoughtful and appropriate document.

He discusses several important jurisdictional questions relating to "Finance," "The Educational Fund," Grand Visitations, etc., making suggestions thereanent, which were productive of suitable responses, in edicts, from the Grand Lodge.

He alludes to "Foreign Relations" as being of the most friendly character.

Had granted Dispensations for three new Lodges.

Among his decisions is one objecting to the injustice of Lodge By-Laws disfranchising members who are in arrears for dues, and says on that subject, and very pertinently too, that:

To be present on all occasions and participate in the business transactions of the lodge, is a right inherent in every member of good standing; and it is a well settled principle of Masonic law that a brother cannot be deprived of his rights as a Master Mason or member of a particular lodge, except after trial and conviction, upon written charges duly specifying the nature of the offense committed, Neither can the rights of a member be abridged, except in the manner prescribed by the Constitution, to-wit: erasure from the roll of members. Hence, I am clearly of the opinion that the enforcement of such a resolution would be a palpable abridgement of the rights of such of your members as may be in arrears, unwarranted by our regulations and in plain violation of the constitutional provisions quoted.

The Grand Secretary's report in alluding to the statistics of that year, states the increase of members..... 216
The number who had died, been suspended, expelled, &c..... 197

Showing an actual increase of only..... 19

The Educational Fund, stated at $18,303 92, was disposed of by an appropriation of the whole amount for the purchase of "a majority of the capital stock of the Masonic Building Association, of Portland, Oregon," and measures also adopted looking to further purchases of stock in that Association. We hope this is a wise financial movement, otherwise the Educational Fund, besides being misappropriated, may be also lost. The contributions from Subordinate Lodges were ordered to be increased; thus providing for threatened deficiency of revenue.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence submitted three special reports. One on the Quebec-Scotland difficulty, with the following resolutions, viz:

Resolved, That American Grand Lodges adhere strictly to the doctrine of exclusive territorial jurisdiction. They will not invade the territory of other Grand Lodges, nor suffer it to be done by others. That this Grand Lodge will not recognize as regular Masons those who have received degrees in lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, within the territory of the Grand Lodge of Quebec.

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Oregon insists upon the observance on this continent of the principle of exclusive territorial jurisdic-

tion of Grand Lodges, and earnestly requests that the Grand Lodge of Scotland will reconsider its action and withdraw the charters granted for the organization of lodges within the territory of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and it is to be hoped that fraternal relations may be at once restored between the Grand Lodge of Scotland and the Grand Lodge of Quebec.

Another alludes to the Grand Lodge of CUBA, and also to that of NEW SOUTH WALES, saying of them: "Your Committee are not prepared to make any recommendation at this session."

The third report alludes feelingly and in appropriate terms of eulogy to the death of

M. W. A. J. WHEELER,

Late of Memphis, Tennessee.

The Grand Oration was delivered by R. W. and Rev'd J. R. N. Bell, Grand Chaplain, appointed by the Grand Master to fill the position of Grand Orator to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of the party duly elected to that position.

The Oration is good, but not quite up to the standard of such productions in adjacent Masonic jurisdictions.

The general

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE

Is, as heretofore, from the pleasant pen of Bro. S. F. Chadwick, Chairman and P. G. M.

He reviews judiciously and courteously the work and deliverances of 39 Grand Lodges. The Alabama report of 1878 is appropriately noticed. He says of the insurance proposition, which we eventually declined to participate in, that:

> We think the best way to do this is to have each member pay so much annually into the lodge, as a pledge that at the death of a brother, his representatives, wife and children, shall receive as many dollars as there are members of his lodge. Suppose there are fifty members, that would be the number in dollars to be paid on the death of a brother. If it were possible for a Grand Lodge to make a scale of insurance and insure the lives of its members, it could be done for one-half of what is now paid. We have wondered why this could not be done. Suppose there are 5,000 members, what would be the average mortality? Would it be 50 per annum? If so, have each member pay $10 per annum into this fund for insuring his life. The return would be very handsome to his family.

He discusses, in his conclusion, the infidel new departure and innovation of the Grand Orient of France, and says many appropriate things in denunciation thereof, closing as follows, viz:

> The French majority, in order to amend their constitution, as indicated, have gone back on the traditions of the institution of Masonry

and the noble principle that has governed the world through the past. They are the first to lead on to infidelity and idolatry, which the institution of Freemasonry was designed to destroy and remove from the face of the earth. As every Masonic temple, from the days of King Solomon to the present time, has been reared to the glory of the ever-living and true God, let us, brethren, strengthen our Masonic edifices, increase our faith in the God of our fathers, and make the Masonic house of the Lord his dwelling-place for ever; that we may remember always that there can be no Masonic workmen where the Grand Architect is not.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. R. P. Earhart.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. J. W. Pratt (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Total of Lodges 64—3 of which are U. D.

PENNSYLVANIA, 1879.

The book of minutes furnished by the M. W. Grand Lodge for A. D. 1879, include abstracts of the proceedings of its quarterly communications of March 5th, June 4th, September 3d, and December 3d, followed by the minutes of its Grand Annual Communication, held at Philadelphia (as were all the others convened), December 27, 1879.

The quarterly of December 3d was apparently the most important business meeting, for in that we find the most interesting details of finance and home legislation. M. W. Grand Master Michael Nisbet, presiding, with 195 constituent Lodges represented.

The detail reports of its financial condition presented to this communication, while showing the large debt of this Grand Lodge, equally illustrate its power and ability to carry the load without serious inconvenience and its intelligent provision for its ultimate liquidation. It is seldom that such Grand Lodge debts are as prudently and consistently controlled.

The balance sheet shows a debt, "Masonic Temple Redemption Loan" of.....$1,320,500 00
(Relieved by a sinking fund of, say $190,000 00).
With an annual interest burden of about $79,000 00.
Its charity fund is accumulated under two trusts—one called "The Stephen Girard Charity Fund" of.....$ 61,210 05
And the other styled, "The Grand Lodge Charity Fund".. 70,010 05

Total of Charity Funds.....$131,220 10

These funds are under control of Trustees and the income distributed for charitable purposes, according to original design, that of the first (Stephen Girard) by 64 "Stewards," and the earnings of the latter

through 64 "Almoners," each fund disbursing over $3,500 annually in CHARITY.

As against the debt, above stated, the property of the Grand Lodge, in real estate, is valued at $1,919,126 95.

Grand Master Nisbet opened the Grand Communication of December 27th in ample form, and delivered an interesting annual address, in which he alludes appropriately to the incidents of the year, indicating alike his watchful and intelligent supervision of the Craft and its generally prosperous condition. He alludes to the financial condition of the Grand Lodge as "satisfactory," and mentions but one disagreeable incident of current events, which is thus presented, viz:

Through the public papers we learned, that in a recent investigation before a Committee of our State Legislature, the fair name of Freemasonry was dragged through the dirty, slimy pool of political bribery and corruption. Masons are but men, and are subject to all their weaknesses, and it should not be a matter of surprise, that there are some who endeavor to pervert our institution to improper purposes, but when the attempt to prostitute our Fraternity to accomplish nefarious ends becomes known, the offender should meet with speedy, and condign punishment. The purity of our Fraternity must be preserved at all hazards. We know not if those who thus basely used our name, are Masons, but if they are, we call upon the Lodges to which they are attached, to bring them to trial, that no such unworthy members may be permitted to continue among us.

Masons are at present peculiarly tempted to engage in political effort and generally from pure and unselfish motives, indeed, their aid in controlling legislation is diligently sought after, from apparent or professed motives of public good. But the politics of the day are in that *pitchy* category that almost forbids the touch of clean hands for fear of being soiled. We think the *peculiar* danger now threatening masonry, from without, is the allurements held out to our members to accept, and *even seek*, political preferment!

To us, and probably to our readers, the most interesting and instructive contents of this volume is the

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE,

And to it we propose to devote the remainder of the space allotted to Pennsylvania in this review of Grand Lodge work.

Bro. Richard Vaux, the wise and accomplished Chairman of the Pennsylvania Committee, addresses the Craft in general, in the introductory paragraphs of his report, with words of fraternal and instructive salutation, and in behalf of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania gives us assurance of sympathy and love for all who hold fast to the mystic faith in purity and consistency. He says in this connection that:

Words are but the signs we use to make known the hidden significance which lies veiled in their combination. He only can interpret this significance who has been brought to the light in which he can behold the otherwise invisible.

Whatever is sacred, fundamental, indestructible, unalterable in the Masonic faith, existing since the earliest of days; and by the same faith, courage and virtue, in the generations to come, to live till the world shall roll away like a scroll; is contained in these hailings of the Craft. In the roar of the tempest of human strifes, or in the darkness of the ignorances and hates of peoples, the Masonic ear and eye can hear and see what these symbolic salutations intend to convey.

It is in this spirit we salute the Brethren. The inner life of the Freemason has the incidents and elements like unto his spiritual life. The latter may be known; the former can be by those who have the capacity to understand what Freemasonry creates, cultivates and cherishes.

Therefore, in these salutations, those who offer them and those to whom they are addressed should be animated alike with that unseen power which, like the electric current, vital, vigorous, and veiled in its own laws, communicates that mysterious meaning by the signs of words in human language which the Masonic heart and mind fully understand.

His review embraces the proceedings of 52 Grand Lodges, including those of Alabama for 1878, which are well and acceptably quoted—noting no disapproval of our acts or words.

Bro. Vaux discusses very fully and exhaustively the, at present, vexed question of Grand Lodge exclusive jurisdiction, and announces his conclusions with no hesitancy. He says, as one result of his reasoning, that:

Pennsylvania would feel justified in defence of her sovereignty to do any act that prudence and a courageous determination would sanction. She could do no more than this in support of any of her sister Grand Lodges who are contending for its Masonic independence. When a territory is open to the settlement by competent Masonic power of Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons, no one Grand Lodge has exclusive, prior, or pre-emptton rights. *When three or more Lodges* so constituted, and located in this territory, agree to form a Grand Lodge, with notice to all, and such Grand Lodge is lawfully and duly set up, and recognized as such Grand Lodge, she then becomes supreme and sovereign. To her attaches the sovereignty which duly warranted and lawfully constituted and located the subordinate Lodges before she was set up. It is then the duty, the Masonic duty, the obedience to the law of Masonry, which is its own law, for each of the Lodges within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge to surrender their original charters to the power which granted them, and accept charters from the Grand Lodge of the jurisdiction, and become faithful devoted children of the Masonic Mother.

It may be said that there is no analogy for such a course in universal Masonry in the affairs of the profane world. That "universal Masonry" contains within its theoretic doctrine the very certain incident of its destruction we cannot admit. That is preposterous either in theory or practice, for the practical attempt to carry it out would produce frac-

tions of this universal rule, if it was ever either a theory or a rule, which we deny.

We italicise as above, and ask Bro. Vaux if the *three or more Lodges* alluded to, did not include the majority of Lodges in a given territory, would he recognize the right of such *minority* to establish a Grand Lodge?

Of the course pursued by Scotland towards Quebec, he says:

While the Committee feels great respect for the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and has but lately opened Masonic relations with her, we are constrained to utter our earnest, solemn protest against this signal, unjustifiable and unwarranted violation of the sovereignty of the Grand Lodge of Quebec. In all kindness, in the bonds of Masonry, in love and respect, in the spirit of long-suffering and kindness, we invoke the Grand Lodge of Scotland to yield her own judgment, and to modify her action, to accept the entreaties of the Grand Lodges of the United States and withdraw her sanction of the insubordination which her Lodges are producing in the Craft. We ask the Grand Representative of this Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of Scotland to take suitable occasion to bring these views before that Grand Lodge, and in the spirit of fraternal regard, and the amenities of Masonic intercourse, to urge them on the serious attention of our Brethren in Scotland. To make our appeal more earnest, we take this last occasion to refer to it in the language of entreaty. If the Grand Lodge of Scotland insists on the position she now holds, this Committee will be forced by the rigor of consistency and the devotion to the Masonic law we have asserted to be obligatory on us, as it is on all the Grand Lodges of the United States, promptly to ask the dissolution of all Masonic intercourse between the Grand Lodges of Pennsylvania and Scotland. This is not offered either as menace or compulsion, but only to show that we have felt it our duty in again making this appeal to the Grand Lodge of Scotland to accompany it with the assurance that it is final on this question.

His greeting in "conclusion" to his Brethren of "Correspondence," is pleasant and encouraging, as follows:

Thus have we devoted hours, pleasant hours, to the review of the Grand Lodges whose Proceedings have received our careful attention. We rejoice to see in them, and by them, that Masonry round the globe is prosperous and harmonious, and challenging the respect of the profane. There are some places, it is true, where we wish we could apply these remarks, but it may be that the lesson and teaching of these exceptions will have a salutary effect upon the Craft to warn them to avoid errors. Our present converse with our Brethren of Committees of Foreign Correspondence has been to us, the highest gratification. We take deep interest in witnessing the methods they each of them have adopted in the performance of their respective duties. We doubt if the closest investigator, using the highest lens that envy can manufacture, will be able to discover one unkind thought in all the pages of all the pamphlets containing these Proceedings. We doubt if in any human institution having such varied and extended foreign relations, the like can be said. We feel towards our Brethren, Chairmen of Committees of Foreign Correspondence, that personal regard and esteem which bind

us together in the chain of Masonic friendship. And so we close this labor of Masonic love.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Michael Nisbet (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. John Thomson (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Total of Lodges..... 376.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, 1879.

The fourth grand annual communication of this jurisdiction was held in the city of Charlottetown, Tuesday, June 24th, A. D. 1879.

Present—M. W. John Yeo, Grand Master, with Grand and Past Grand Officers, with nine Grand Representatives (Alabama *not* represented), and the representatives of ten constituent Lodges.

The Grand Master's address is brief and somewhat apologetic for imperfect performance of his work having been constrained by business engagements to devote less time to the duties of his office than he desired to do.

Briefly he states that :

Since our last Annual Communication nothing of importance, affecting the Craft within this jurisdiction, has transpired.

The Grand Secretary, in his report, acknowledges receipt of numerous reports of proceedings of Grand Lodges, those of Alabama for 1877 and 1878 being included in this list of recognized correspondents.

The work of the Craft seems to have prospered in this jurisdiction, only moderately during the year, and the statistics show a "falling off" of eighteen members. Harmony and good intent, however, prevail, prophetic of future increase.

Preceding the annual there was held a "regular," 24th June, 1878, ann a Special Communication, 19th February, 1879, the proceedings of which are given in this report but present no items of general interest.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. John Yeo (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. George W. Wakeford.....Grand Secretary.
Total of Lodges..... 12.

QUEBEC, 1879.

We greet with welcome the volume of proceedings detailing the labors of the M. W. Grand Lodge of QUEBEC, at its tenth annual communication, held in the city of Montreal, on Wednesday, September 24th, A. D. 1879.

"M. W. Bro. Melbourne M. Tait on the Throne," with the usual Grand Assistants, and 49 constituent Lodges represented.

We find no unusual topics discussed at this communication.

Grand Master Tait, as usual, delivered a very appropriate address, giving a clear and intelligent narrative of local events, and calling attention to such general matters as seemed to require mention.

Of the unfortunate intrusion upon his jurisdiction by the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and also of unadjusted claims (similar we believe) of that of England, he says :

I am glad to be able to inform you that the difficulties which existed between our brethren both in the Provinces of Ontario and Manitoba have been adjusted ; would that I could report a similar result as regard our own difficulties, but unhappily I cannot do so. In accordance with the resolution passed by this Grand Lodge at its last communication, requesting and authorizing me, either by personal interview, or by the appointment of a delegate to the Grand Lodge of England, to endeavor to secure a speedy and amicable solution of all pending difficulties between us, I appointed as such delegate M. W. Bro. J. H. Graham, P. G. M., of this Grand Lodge, whose perfect familiarity with our history and with the jurisprudence of masonry on the subject pointed out as the fittest person I could appoint, and I am sure you will agree with me that no more able representative could have been chosen. M. W. Bro. Graham kindly accepted the position, and requested that if possible R. W. Bro. Isaacson should be associated with him, intimating that they would be willing between them to save any extra expense which might be incurred by having two delegates sent instead of one. I consulted the Board at its semi-annual meeting and with their approval I nominated both Brothers Graham and Isaacson as our delegation under that resolution, and the Board were kind enough to vote a sum of money towards the expenses of the delegates should they proceed to carry out the object of their appointment, but circumstances have occurred which have made it impossible for the brethren named to proceed together to England, and consequently nothing has as yet been done.

The invasion of our territory by the Grand Lodge of Scotland has been condemned by almost every Grand Lodge on this Continent which has considered our question, and some have gone so far as to cut off all communication with her, but as yet she has made no sign of abandoning her position.

Only two courses seem open to us : one is to wait another year to see if she will pay attention to the remonstrances addressed to her by her Sister Grand Lodges or to the representations which may be made to her through a delegation or otherwise, and the other is to invite her to arbitrate. In the case of England, we can also either wait till our delegation report the result of their efforts, or offer to arbitrate. Upon you rests the responsibility of deciding which course should be pursued.

I would also suggest, particularly as we have no Committee on Foreign Correspondence this year, that a committee be appointed to draw up a statement for publication giving the history of our difficulties with foreign Grand Bodies, the opinions expressed and action taken by Sister Grand Lodges on the subject, and the reasons which we believe to justify our position.

We shall be delighted to hear, and hope soon to be so gratified that, all the clouds of antiquated jurisdictional error which have so of late disturbed the peace and prosperity of QUEBEC are scattered and gone.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. John H. Graham, L. L. D.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. J. H. Isaacson (re-elected)..... .....Grand Secretary.
Total of Lodges 60 (one U. D.).

RHODE ISLAND, 1879.

The report of this Grand Jurisdiction for 1879 gives the proceedings of several communications held in 1878, 1879, viz: A special June 10th, 1878, for the purpose of constituting Redwood Lodge No. 35; another special June 15th, same year, to constitute Unity Lodge No. 34.

The semi-annual was held in Providence, November 18th, 1878. Another special convened in the same city March 24th, 1879, for the purpose of considering the report on the revision of the Constitution, as the result of which a new Constitution was adopted, ordered to be printed and, as the Grand Secretary subsequently reported, was promulgated May 10th, 1879.

The Grand Annual Communication, the 89th, was held in Providence, May 18th, A. D. 1879.

Present (at this and all preceding communications), M. W. Grand Master Charles R. Cutler, with 30 constituent Lodges represented.

The Grand Secretary's report is the first business noted in the record, giving a clear and concise statement of his official acts, with an approved list of collections and disbursements.

Then a report on Correspondence follows, and finally the annual address of the M. W. Grand Master is presented. We note this order of proceedings as quite unusual and possibly peculiar to Rhode Island. The annual address is a brief but good executive message, confined, however, to topics of local interest. He had created one new Lodge by dispensation.

The report on Correspondence is by Rev. and W. Henry W. Rugg, and the following extract will explain its intention, as well as intimate its brief proportions, etc., viz:

> The Committee on Foreign Correspondence herewith submit their fourth annual report. The proceedings of some fifty Grand Lodges have been received during the year. By means of these publications much light is thrown upon questions of Masonic importance, and valuable information is disseminated respecting the condition, legislation, and movements of the Craft in the various jurisdictions. It would be interesting to review somewhat at length these proceedings, and to pre-

sent a synopsis of the reports and doings therein embodied. Your Committee, however do not understand that this work is expected of them, and their report, therefore, will deal only with such matters affecting the relations of this Grand Lodge with other Grand Masonic Bodies as seem to them of special importance, and of a character requiring the notice of this Body.

It is gratifying to the Committee to be able to state that the Grand Lodges with which this Grand Body is in official communication are in substantial agreement as regards the fundamental principles of the Institution, and that an intelligent administration of Masonic affairs pervades the various jurisdictions.

The Committee on Library acknowledge the receipt of numerous Grand Lodge Proceedings, including those of Alabama for 1878.

The following disapproval of the Grand Master's official acts was reported by the Committee on Jurisprudence, but not approved by the Grand Lodge, viz:

The first, that of the election of a Master of St. John's Lodge No. 1, to take the place of the Master elected at the annual communication and who had deceased, and which was held by a dispensation of the M. W. Grand Master.

Your Committee acknowledge the power existing in the Grand Master of Masons in this jurisdiction to issue such a dispensation, but inasmuch as the law of Masonry provides for filling such a vacancy by succession, your Committee suggest that the exercise of the power of dispensation in such cases should only be used as in this instance after mature deliberation.

The second matter is that of issuing a dispensation for the formation of a Lodge without a fee therefor.

This presents a question of great importance to Grand Lodge and one brought to its notice for the first time in its history so far as is believed. It is the understood law of the jurisdiction that the Grand Master may dispense with any provision of the Grand Constitution at his pleasure except that fixing the hour of the election of a Grand Master of Masons, but at the same time it is also understood that there are certain provisions which should not be dispensed with, and in this class is that provision requiring the payment of a fee for the issuing of a dispensation of the Grand Lodge. The principle applies to all the regulations in regard to the formation of Lodges, and these should on no account be subject to change at the pleasure of the Grand Master of Masons, and only after due deliberation of Grand Lodge. The Committee regret to disapprove of this action of the M. W. Grand Master in this respect.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Edward L. Freeman.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Edwin Baker (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Total of Lodges..... 34.

SOUTH CAROLINA, 1879.

Grand Lodge met in annual communication in the city of Charleston (103 annual).

M. W. Augustine T. Smythe, Grand Master, with all Grand Officers present, and also the Representatives of 158 constituent Lodges.

The Grand Master's address is a good and compact message devoted mainly to local matters, with a brief allusion to FOREIGN RELATIONS however, under which heading he speaks of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, that of Manitoba, and also of New South Wales.

He announced fifteen decisions for the year, several of which we reproduce as relating to questions of general interest, viz:

An applicant once rejected by a Lodge, can never again apply for initiation to any other but the same Lodge.

The Lodge first receiving the application of a candidate, acquires a right to confer upon him his degrees, which is not taken away by his removal to another jurisdiction. Any other Lodge conferring the degrees upon him, can do so only by courtesy, and at the request of the first, and the fees for the degrees belong to the latter.

There is no rule that requires or allows a committee on an application, to give reasons for an unfavorable report.

An unaffiliated Mason still remains subject to the government of the Order, and may be tried and punished for any offense by the Lodge within whose jurisdiction he resides.

The proceedings are, as usual in this Grand Lodge, interesting even in the details relating only to matters of local administration, for they are marked by intelligence and precision.

In reference to the Grand Lodge of Scotland, Bro. Chas. Inglesby, Grand Secretary and Correspondent, submitted a series of resolutions condemnatory of her action towards Quebec, closing with the following excellent suggestion or overture, viz:

Resolved. That the Grand Lodge of South Carolina will hereby join with other Grand Lodges, in Fraternal remonstrance with the Grand Lodge of Scotland, so long established as an eminent governing body, whose practice has ever been to conserve the principles of Masonic right and universal justice, in the hope that she may be induced to reconsider her action in the true interest of Masonry.

The COMMITTEE ON JURISPRUDENCE reported as follows on restoration of expelled members, viz:

That they have considered carefully the question as to what vote is required to restore to the privileges of Masonry a Brother who has been expelled, and have come to the conclusion that it requires a unanimous ballot in his favor. We know that the general opinion seems to prevail that the same vote that can expel or suspend, can restore. But the spirit of the Constitution of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge would seem to indicate otherwise. It takes a unanimous ballot to elect to ini-

tiation, to advancement, and to affiliation. It also takes a unanimous ballot to restore a Brother to membership who has been erased from the roll of the Lodge for non-payment of dues. If so, in a case which may be termed a minor offense, if an offense at all, why should not the same rule prevail in graver and more serious matters, those which may truly be termed crimes?

THE REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE

Is, as heretofore, from the able pen of Bro. Charles Inglesby, and is in full keeping with preceding efforts in that direction.

Among the numerous proceedings reviewed, those of Alabam for 1878 (58th annual communication), are fully and acceptably noticed. He objects to the ENDOWMENT scheme and advises us to "leave it alone," which was precisely the action of our Grand Lodge, though we did it after giving its advocates a full hearing as a matter of Masonic courtesy.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Augustine T. Smythe (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Charles Inglesby (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Total of Lodges 183—5 of them U. D.

TENNESSEE, 1879.

The 66th annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Tennessee convened at Nashville, November 10th, A. D. 1879.

Present —M. W. Grand Master George C. Connor, with Grand Officers, numerous Past Grands, and Grand Representatives (Alabama *not* represented); also, the Representatives of 345 (of 412) constituent Lodges.

The Grand Master's address is very long (38 pages) and exhaustive. It is an able message, presenting in ample detail the characteristics of his administration, and the condition of his jurisdiction, which is generally prosperous, although he says they have too many Lodges, as many are small in numbers and hence inefficient.

He discusses at some length, and appropriately, the Scotland-Quebec controversy, recommending, though reluctantly, (because of high appreciation of Scotch Masonry *per se*) *non-intercourse* with the Grand Lodge of Scotland, as necessary to the defense of "our sovereignty."

He opposes the Kentucky claim to control one S. M. Toliver, and is very pronounced in his opposition. It seems that Toliver was tried and expelled by a Tennessee Lodge for an offence committed under its jurisdiction. Pending the trial Toliver returned to Kentucky and asked to be tried by his own Lodge, and secured the interposition in his behalf of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky. A request to stay proceedings in Tennessee and allow the trial to proceed in Kentucky, was made by

the Grand Master of Kentucky to the Grand Master of Tennessee and refused by the latter, as incompatible with the law of his jurisdiction. The trial was continued in Tennessee, resulting in the expulsion of Toliver. Thus has arisen a very serious and regretable controversy between Kentucky and Tennessee.

Tennessee suggests a commission of Past Grand Officers, three from each Grand Body, to meet and discuss this difference, and we hope this friendly suggestion was carried out, and that harmony has already been restored through that agency.

It were a shame if one declared expelled by a recognized Lodge, should be permitted to permanently alienate two such respectable and powerful Grand Lodges.

The Grand Master announces forty-five "official rulings," or decisions, "on points not heretofore settled by the Grand Lodge." Many of these rulings are exceedingly interesting, but our space will not permit of their reproduction.

The proceedings under review are marked by an intelligent and earnest application to the duties of the occasion. The reports are all, as in the case of the Grand Master's address, elaborate presentations of the subjects discussed, but quite too long for such an analysis as we had proposed, and as we cannot quote any portion of them with propriety, we desist from further comment thereon.

We must remark, however, that the proceedings, addresses, etc., of the *Lodge of Sorrow* are by no means the least attractive of the many readable portions of the report.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Report on this topic is from the able pen of Bro. GEORGE Stodart Blackie, and is full of good thoughts, expressed in good words.

He reviews the proceedings of 54 Grand Lodges, among which those of Alabama for 1878 have appropriate space and comment. Just here we beg to apologize to Bro. George for having, either by accident of the pen or a mistake of the printer, substituted Charles for George in announcing his name. Pardon if you please.

Bro. Blackie commends the report of our Committee on Suspensions and Appeals for that year, and quotes Bro. Titcomb's advice and warning, as to profanity and drunkenness, as worthy of special mention.

In the opening of his report Bro. B. makes some thoughtful general remarks as to the general condition of Masonry as developed from his stand-point, which we quote approvingly, remarking, however, that we do not like that one feature in the situation known as "non-payment of dues," and fear there is danger lurking *there*,

He says:

The affairs of the Masonic world are encouraging. There is a decided improvement in the general condition of the Craft in the last two years, a feeling of confidence has revived, and the prospect of the continued development of our Order in strength, as well as in good deeds, never was better.

Generally, all is well throughout the hemispheres.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Wilbur F. Foster.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. John Frizzell (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Whole number of Lodges..... 412.

TEXAS, 1879.

We gladly welcome the renewal of correspondence with Texas, and from the character of the report before us realize most regretfully our loss in having, for two years past, been deprived of these very excellent and instructive volumes.

The proceedings now under consideration report the work of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Texas at its 44th annual communication, held at Houston, December 11th, A. D. 1879.

Present—M. W. John B. Jones, Grand Master, with numerous Grand and Past Grand Officers, and the Representatives of 177 constituent Lodges. No mention is made of the presence of any Grand Representatives, although we recognize, among the prominent workers of the session, several who we know to be accredited as such representatives.

It appears to be the custom in this Grand Lodge for both the Grand and Deputy Grand Masters to present annual addresses. We do not exactly understand what duties are apportioned to each officer, for both addresses allude in some respects to similar official acts, as to local administration; but the Grand Master's address is the more general of the two, and we suppose condenses the home work of the Deputy, and thus reproduces his report.

Both addresses are good, and together they present a very fair view of the "true inwardness" of Masonry in that region.

Texas is an immense territory, rapidly increasing in population by immigration from other States and nations, causing a great annual influx of peoples, far from being homogeneous in language or characteristics. With its frontiers, too, bounded either by the remote counties of Louisiana and Arkansas or by Mexico and New Mexico, the latter scarcely yet redeemed from its original foreign habit, we might naturally expect to hear of great and oft-recurring irregularities as embarrassing the rule of Masonry in that Grand Jurisdiction. Such is *not* the case, however, and we are equally surprised and gratified to find so

few indications of internal or border troubles as are intimated in the Grand Master's address. The principal trouble of this latter description arose in contact with Louisiana, where, strange to say, the anomaly is presented, in this case, of a Louisiana Lodge being officered by Texas Masons.

Complaint, however, of this difficulty was promptly and satisfactorily met by Louisiana, and Texas material will no longer be worked up by ADONIJAH LODGE (Louisiana.)

We may remark just here, par parenthesis, that in Texas, as in California, aforetime, Masonry is demonstrating its conservative influence, and its power to control the most incongruous and discordant elements of population.

The Grand Master greets the Lodge representatives with a very pertinent intimation of duty as follows, viz:

Brethren, you are here as the representatives of all the Subordinates in the Grand Lodge Jurisdiction. Each one of you is, or should be, well informed in regard to the true condition of the Lodge he represents. If your Lodge needs Masonic light, it is your bounden duty to prepare yourself to furnish that light. If discord exists among the members of your Lodge, you should seek the means of restoring peace and harmony. And especially is it the duty of all who are called to preside, and who accept the responsible office of W. M., to qualify themselves to preside with firmness and impartiality, and to be ever ready and able to impart Masonic light and knowledge to the members of their Lodges. A Worshipful Master who neglects to qualify himself in these all important requisites fails to discharge his duty as a Mason.

He announces the death of Bro. E. H. Cushing, late Chairman, Correspondent, with appropriate words of eulogy and expressions of deep regret; and also the death of R. W. J. J. McBride, P. D. Grand Master, a Mason of high repute, a citizen without reproach.

He announces *five* Lodges as *demised*, had granted dispensation for the formation of only *one* new Lodge, refusing application for four others. The Deputy Grand Master, however, states that *he* had (under the provisions of the constitution) issued dispensations for *eight* new Lodges, and just here is where we are troubled to know the allotment of duties to these officers, as we cannot refer to the constitution.

The questions decided by the Grand Master are diverse from any that have attracted our attention heretofore, and we give several of them as specimens of new difficulties adjusted by competent authority, viz:

Question 1. —Should a candidate who has conscientious scruples about swearing, but will affirm, be estopped therefor from taking the Degrees?

Answer.—Yes. There is no place in the Ritual where the word affirm can be substituted for any word that is used. One who cannot conscientiously conform to all the requirements of our Order has no place among us.

Question 2.—Has the J. W. the right to prefer charges for gross unmasonic conduct against a Brother who conducted a party of ladies and gentlemen into a Masonic Hall, and instigated and aided in carrying on a dance, notwithstanding the officers and members of the Lodge protested against it?

Answer.—He not only had the right, but it was his bounden duty to do so. A Lodge would certainly be inexcusably derelict in its duty if it failed to arraign and try a member for doing that which the Lodge itself is so positively forbidden to permit by Resolution 65*a*. Whether the Brother is guilty of gross unmasonic conduct or not is a question to be decided by a vote of the Lodge having all the facts and circumstances of the particular case before them in the trial.

Question 3.—Does betting on horse races come under the provision of Article 5, Chapter 5, Section 25, of the Grand Lodge Constitution so as to be punishable by the Lodges?

Answer.—I can find no definition of the word in any authority at my command which would justify such a construction. The Supreme Court of our State has held, in more than one instance, that betting on horse races is not gambling. I believe the section alluded to was suggested or based upon one of the "Ancient Charges at makings," which says, "A Mason must be no common player at the cards, dice, or hazard, or any other unlawful plays," etc. For these reasons I decide that betting on horse races does not come within the purview of the section of the Constitution named.

He decides, also, that the P. M. degree *must* be taken before a W. M. elect can preside. To this we dissent, for, as heretofore stated, it subordinates the Lodge to the Chapter, and "puts the cart before the horse." The Symbolic Degrees are, with us, the Alpha and the Omega of Ancient Freemasonry, and *cannot* be made subservient to, or dependent upon, the Chapter as such ruling would necessitate.

But we must here leave the Grand Master's address, remarking that it is a very able message, giving a clear view of the condition of affairs in his jurisdiction, generally favorable as to the state of the Craft, and indicating abundant, as well as arduous, labors performed during the year, work so well done that the Grand Lodge by special report and resolution thanked him for the services rendered.

A leading and very interesting feature in these proceedings is the

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE,

By Bro. J. H. McLeary, Chairman, who succeeded Bro. Ed. H. Cushing, deceased, long known and revered as the able and courteous correspondent of the Grand Lodge of Texas. Bro. McLeary's first report, now before us, bears unmistakeable evidence of his peculiar fitness for the duty assigned him by the Grand Lodge, although he seems to be unable to "see himself as others see him," as the following apologetic paragraph indicates, viz:

When called upon to undertake the work of writing the report on

Foreign Correspondence, the chairman was greatly surprised and almost frightened at the immense labor and responsibility thus put upon his shoulders; but he felt that it was a duty some one had to perform, and he thought that his turn might as well come this year as at any other time.

Now we can truthfully say, "in response to this," that we wish we could do as well—emphatically so. To us the report alluded to has a "singular form and beauty" truly commendable. It differs essentially from all other reports heretofore received by us, and that difference is of itself one of the merits of the work.

The report is subdivided into eight departments as follows:

1st. The United States of America.

Under this division is given a very fair synoptical review of the proceedings of our home Grand Lodges. In this department we find a review of the doings of Alabama at the 58th annual, 1878. A very good epitome of our work is given. The Bro. prefers the Texas rule, causing the old officers to hold over for the year, when the failure to elect at the proper time occurs, to our practice of granting dispensations to elect, under like conditions, and also thinks *three*, instead of *seven*, is the indispensable number, &c.

2d. British America, including all Grand Lodges of those provinces.

3d. Great Britain.

4th. Germania Grand Lodges.

5th. The Latin Grand Lodges.

Under this division are included all countries and provinces in America and Europe where the Latin races have control, and poor Americanized (masonically) CUBA falls into line here.

Under this department Bro. McLeary gives a full and exceedingly interesting account and full explanatson of the new departure of the Grand Orient of France, commonly called "infidelitas." He is disposed to excuse it as being only the assertion of liberal views, of to the rights of conscience, warranted by the advanced ideas of the age in reference to man's humanity to man, if we may so speak. Your views my Brother would be more appropriate, we think, if it were a question of religion or sect. But does Masonry permit in its *rites* or ethics any presumption of no GOD? In the decisions of your own Grand Master recently, it was held that no person who had conscientious scruples about taking an oath could be initiated; why, because Masonry required the *oath* and an affirmation could not be substituted. So in reference to France we contend that Masonry requires the recognition of God, and no Body refusing to require such recognition is really and truly Masonic.

The sixth division embraces "other Grand Lodges throughout the world." Egypt, Hungary, etc., come under this.

The seventh compiles information of the condition of all accessible Grand Lodges, of later date than the latest annual report; sought after by circular letter, and in some instances obtained, to give the latest possible intelligence from each. This we think is impracticable as a general practice.

Under the eighth subdivision general principles, ethics, and controversial topics are discussed. This department is both well intended, and well conducted, interestingly so.

But we are lingering longer in Texas than our limits warrant. and "hie away" to UTAH, that land where the Priest is the Prophet and the Prophet is the King, and where duty now call us.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. E. G. Bower.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Geo. H. Bringhurst (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Total of Lodges..... 420.

UTAH, 1879.

The eighth annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of UTAH was held in Salt Lake City, November 11th, A. D. 1879.

Present, R. W. Frank Tilford, Deputy Grand Master, prisiding, (the G. M. Thos. Edward Clohecy being, unavoidably, absent,) with the Lodges, six, duly represented.

The Grand Master's annual address was "transmitted to the Grand Lodge," and was read by the Grand Orator.

It is an exceedingly appropriate message, and indeed we may remark of all addresses and reports, of which latter there are several, that they are both in spirit and diction fully up to our ideas of excellence.

The Grand Master makes several useful suggestions, and among others, the following good one, viz:

> The disturbed condition of society incident to all new mining countries, has in times past led the members of the Fraternity in this Territory to overlook or pardon conduct on the part of erring Brethren, such as would in older communities have subjected the offenders to the discipline of the Lodge. This excuse no longer exists, and we should proceed to apply the corrective principle, that the *morale* of the Institution may be by us, sustained in the highest excellence possible to humanity.

Early in the session R. W. Grand Secretary Chistopher Diehl announced his intention to decine that office, induced thereto by failing health and the demands of his business. We thought on reading this announcement—what will the Grand Lodge do when this indefatigable and intelligent worker retires? We were glad to find, however, in the

later proceedings that he had accepted a re-election, and was installed Grand Secretary.

One Brother accused of *Mormonism* was tried for the offense, condemned and expelled.

The Scotland-Quebec controversy called forth two able reports, one from the Grand Representative of Scotland, Bro. Jno. S. Scott giving a strong and well written appeal for moderation in judging of the attitude of Scotland. The other from Bro. Diehl, Grand Representative of Quebec, forcibly supporting the acts of the latter. The result was the adoption of resolutions censuring Scotland and Quebec *both*, for acts inconsistent with Masonic duty and etequette, (pretty near right,) but deprecating harsher measures.

THE REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE

Is, as usual, from the pen of Bro. Diehl, and is "in line" with his former efforts. The proceedings of Alabama for 1878—58th annual—receive pleasant and full notice. He reviews 54 reports in all. The wonder is how he could do the work assigned him, as Grand Secretary, Grand Librarian and Correspondent, so well and acceptably and yet keep up his business labors which are said to be very arduous.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Frank Tilford.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Christopher Diehl (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Total of Lodges..... 6.

VIRGINIA, 1879.

The 102d Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Virginia was held at Richmond, Monday, December 8th, A. D. 1879, and continued in session three days.

Present, M. W. Beverly R. Wellford Junior, Grand Master, and the Representatives of 135 constituent Lodges, also several Past Grand Officers and numerous PAST MASTERS who, it appears, are permanent members of the Grand Lodge. We also note the presence of GRAND REPRESENTATIVES of many Grand Lodges; but no representative of Alabama.

Grand Master Wellford delivered an excellent address, thoughtful as well as methodical, and indicating a thorough familiarity with, and the full performance of the duties of his trust.

From this address, supplemented by the reports of the DISTRICT DEPUTIES (40 in all), we get a very fair insight into the Masonic work of the year, as well as into the condition of the CRAFT in that jurisdiction. Everything appears satisfactory as to harmony, stability, and progress.

The Virginia system of supervision is admirable. With an intelligent Grand Master, aided by numerous and competent District Deputies, each supervising a small and compact district, and an experienced Grand Lecturer, devoted to the integrity of the *ritual*, to teach the lessons when required—add to these incentives to orderly Lodge government, and culture in the principles of our Fraternity, a Grand Secretary skilled in the official methods of, and trained to duty, by the immortal DOVE, and it were strange indeed if less satisfactory results than those in these minutes should have manifested themselves. Virginia Masonry is surely advancing towards the perfect development of that "wisdom, strength and beauty," so longingly sought after by all who love our noble art.

The Grand Master announced the death of P. G. Master Edward H. Lane. A loss to the fraternity mourned by all of the Craft; equally, too, a loss to the social and civil life of Virginia, for he was genial, hospitable and patriotic, as is fully attested by the memorial address adopted by the Grand Lodge.

It seems that in Virginia the Grand Master reviews the By-Laws of Lodges, and approves or disapproves as his judgment dictates. We quote some excellent reasons for disapproval, given in this address, viz:

I have disapproved By-Laws enacting that if a member be absent from the Lodge for twelve months successively he shall be cited to show cause why he should not be suspended therefor.

This provision is contained, it is true, in the Code of By-Laws published in the Text-Book. That Code, however, has never been formally approved by the Grand Lodge, and, I think, in this particular, conflicts with our fundamental laws. Masonry is a voluntary institution, and attendance upon our meetings, except when the Brother is specially summoned, cannot be enforced by fines and penalties. The effect of such a law, if enforced, could only be to encourage what it is our duty and interest to discourage as far as practicable—the evil of non-affiliation.

I have also disapproved By-Laws prescribing the penalty of suspension or expulsion for certain specified offences.

No Subordinate Lodge has a right to make an exceptional criminal code for its own members. They are amenable to the general Masonic law; and if they violate that the Lodge must discipline them. A large discretion is conferred upon the Lodge in determining in each case whether the offence should be visited with the gravest or the lightest punishment, and that discretion cannot be restricted in advance of the trial by any general law peculiar to that Lodge. If it were otherwise, the rights and the obligations of a Mason would not be measured by any unchangeable landmarks, but might vary in every Lodge in the same Jurisdiction.

We quote also a few of his decisions that are of general applicability, viz:

5th. I decided that the single fact that a Brother had committed suicide was not sufficient to deny him the right of Masonic burial.

6th. An Entered Apprentice who had a stiff knee and a wooden leg desired to be advanced.

I decided that, as an Entered Apprentice, he had claims upon us and was entitled to the benefit of all reasonable doubts, and that if, upon the most charitable but honest consideration of his infirmity, the Lodge was of opinion that he could conform to the Ritual, he might be advanced.

7th. A Profane residing in Maryland, but nearer to a Virginia Lodge than any in his own State, and having a son in the Virginia Lodge, desired to be initiated in that Lodge

I held that the Virginia Lodge could not entertain his petition without first the relinquishment of jurisdiction by the Grand Lodge of Maryland, and not its Subordinate within whose Jurisdiction he resided, and a Dispensation thereafter from the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

8th. I decided that a Lodge cannot excuse any Brother present from casting his ballot on a petition for Initiation.

9th. In response to the inquiry, "Should a man be rejected who is a regular licensed dealer in ardent spirits when there is nothing else in his moral qualifications derogatory to Masonry?" I replied that, while the ballot is a sacred privilege, to be exercised by every Brother conscientiously, it would be, in my judgment, a gross violation of Masonic charity and principle to reject a worthy and true Candidate simply because he was dealing in liquors under the authority of a State license.

Virginia practices, and the Grand Master, in general, approves the system of Grand Lodge Representation, but the latter suggests an improvement on the system as at present practiced by other Grand Bodies, and thus presents his view of the desired change, viz:

I have been advised of the appointment of Representatives from several corresponding Grand Lodges to this Grand Lodge, and I have made sundry appointments on behalf of this Grand Lodge. The law upon this subject is not as clear and explicit as it might be, and I call the attention of the Brethren to the subject as one needing some legislation. The policy of this body has been to promote the efficiency and value of the Representative System by appointments for limited terms. By limiting the terms of our own Representatives, and reappointing them, or substituting others from time to time, we remind them, and the Grand Body in which they appear, that the office is not merely designed to give them consequence and importance at home, but to impose upon them the obligation of intelligently observing and reporting to us, if necessary, anything occurring in their Jurisdiction which a *Representative* of this body ought to observe, and report to the Grand Lodge, whose honors he wears. And by requiring that any Brother claiming to represent a corresponding Grand Lodge before this body shall be subject to the same limitation upon his tenure of office, we have some assurance that our correspondent knows who undertakes to *represent* her here, and claim in her behalf the right of representation, and for himself, by virtue of that right, honors and privileges among us which we might be very unwilling to accord to him upon his individual merits or services to the Craft. When we designate a *Representative*, we give authority to the body, to which we appoint him, to approach us, if necessary, through him, and we commend him as one through whom we are

not only willing to communicate, but through whom we have a right to expect to receive any and all information which may make it our duty or interest to take the initiate in communication. Such authority may not be wisely and providently conferred, except for a limited time, or for special service.

To limit the tenure, enhances the honor to the incumbent, and while imposing the slightest possible inconvenience, preserves, in our opinion, the dignity of the Grand Lodge, and tends to render the Representative system one that, while it must promote harmony and fraternity among the Craft throughout the world, may be of valuable practical utility on occasions when the intercourse of corresponding Grand Bodies is liable to embarrassment from conflicting views of right and duty.

The Grand Master had visited officially some twenty Lodges of his jurisdiction, and was decidedly impressed by the efficiency and zeal of the Brethren, as well as by their cordial and hospitable welcome to their official visitor. He had also visited Philadelphia, receiving acceptable attentions from the Masonic officials of that Grand Jurisdiction.

We do not discover anything in these proceedings, barring, possibly, the superiority of organization, decidedly differing from our work and ways, until the

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE

Is reached, and there we find that Bro. W. F. Drinkard, its able author, takes exception to three of the rulings of Grand Master Armstrong, made in conformity to Alabama rule and practice.

The decisions objected to relate, 1st, to the Past Master's degree; 2d, to Ballotings for the degrees, &c.; 3d, the number requisite to hold a Lodge.

The Alabama decisions on these points are already of record, and we copy the objections of Bro. D. to give Virginia a hearing. We have incidentally discussed these points heretofore in this report, and may discuss the P. M.'s degree again in our "CONCLUSION." At present we only remark that we fully sustain Grand Master Armstrong's views on all of these propositions, which are the opposite of the Virginia rules, as quoted below, from Bro. D.'s report, viz:

1. In Virginia we require the Lodge to be opened and governed by one who has taken the Past Master's Degree, and as the Wardens may at any meeting have to take charge of the Lodge, they also are required to take that Degree previous to their installation as Wardens.

2. In Virginia we ballot on Masonic proficiency and moral qualifications at called meetings, and at once proceed to advance the candidates. But the law requires that the ballot upon a petition for initiation shall always be taken at a regular meeting, and we think that notice of the called meeting and its object ought to be given at a regular meeting.

3. Our Grand Lodge has decided that three or more may constitute a Master Mason's Lodge.

Bro. Drinkard reviews the proceedings of our Grand Lodge for 1878, and is acceptably frank and cautious in his remarks thereon. The Report is especially interesting and able in the argumentative review of Maine, in which disquisition and criticism are pleasantly intermingled. He and Bro. Drummond are having a little tilt, masonical. Question—Can an E. A. Lodge be opened before the M. M. Lodge orders it opened? *i. e.*, we suppose that to be the point of the dispute.

We congratulate Bro. D. and his Grand Lodge on its charitable and much needed reform practice in reference to N. P. D. delinquents, as indicated in the annexed extract from his "conclusion." We had noted the resolution alluded to for remark in the body of our review, but accidentally omitted it, viz:

We wish a happy New Year to our brother reporters. The tender-hearted amongst them will learn with pleasure that our Grand Lodge has forbidden her Subordinates to summon members to show cause why they shall not be suspended for non-payment of dues, requiring them to confine themselves to mere citations; and has also authorized them, upon mere motion, to remit the dues of a Brother suspended for non-payment of dues, and forthwith to reinstate him, both to membership and in the rights and benefits of Masonry. Of course members may still be suspended for non-payment of dues. The citation paves the way for that punishment. The new regulation only protects from the O. B. to obey the summons, which is an Irish bull of our making, there being no summons allowed. *Au revoir.*

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Peyton S. Coles.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Wm. B. Isaacs (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Total of Lodges, 227, one of which is U. D.

WASHINGTON, 1879.

Pleasant reports from Washington, not the CITY, but the TERRITORY of that name. These are "tidings from the WEST!"

The Grand Lodge of WASHINGTON held its 22d annual communication at OLYMPIA, Wednesday, June 4th, A. D. 1879, continuing through Thursday, the 5th inst.

Neither the M. W. Grand Master, E. P. Ferry, nor the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, were present, the former, being Governor of the Territory, was detained by important official business. The absence of the latter is not explained, and neither of these officers made official reports to the Grand Lodge.

R. W. George W. Durgan, Senior Grand Warden, called the Lodge to order, and by his request M. W. James R. Hayden, P. G. M.,

"assumed the duties of the Grand East," the
East.

Present—Numerous Past Grand Officers, a
tives, and the Representatives of 23 constitue

The report of the Grand Secretary is full an
to some extent, "the missing link" of the Gra
learn from it that two Grand Representatives
during the year, one to Illinois, the other to K

Two dispensations for new Lodges granted,
thereanent refused, for informality, etc.

Official correspondence unusually heavy, "t
concern." Library improving, but more mo
ficiencies for binding, &c. Lodge returns
Lodges generally appear to be in a healthy
Masonry throughout the jurisdiction may b
upon a firm and enduring basis." Pleasant n
stated. The Grand Master could not have sa
we wanted to know) better, Bro. Reed.

The Grand Secretary also says that "the fin
continue to be in a prosperous condition." C
interest $1,000 of a $1,300 surplus, of the yea
paid in full. That's comfortable as to finance

The Committee on "Jurisprudence," and th
ances and Appeals," were by resolution declar
a decidedly appropriate move.

The surplus cash in the Treasury, as usual,
resolutions to distribute to the Lodges, etc. T
ous member in a Grand Lodge who is *sure* to
plus funds. Two such motions were voted do

We see nothing else in the minutes requirin
the *refusal* to adopt biennial sessions, and to
peripatetic by changing its meetings from place
refusals we greatly approve. And we should a
special report on correspondence, providing fo
Grand Lodge of New Mexico, and sympathi
Grand Lodge of NEW SOUTH WALES to obtai
recommending any conclusive action thereon

Bro. Reed, Chairman, says, as a part of his
ises, that:

> The institution of this new Grand Lodge ha
> tion from all local Provincial Grand Officers
> Mother Grand Lodges of England and Scot
> feeling and harsh criticism is the result.

Time will not permit us here, nor do we deem it necessary, to employ the space in going into a detailed history of the long line of facts and circumstances connected, *pro* and *con*, with the organization of the Grand Lodge of New South Wales. Your Committee have simply to say, that, while there are apparent difficulties in the way, seemingly affecting the legality of the present organization, we believe upon close and candid investigation that those difficulties are susceptible of such explanation as would make the procedure justifiable. A majority concurring, no doubt exists respecting the right of the Lodges in New South Wales to establish an independent Grand Lodge. Doubtless a large majority of the Masons in that Province deeply feel the necessity for such independence. They are taxed, not only for the support and maintenance of their own government and benevolent objects, but a large portion of their contributions sent abroad to assist in keeping up other institutions which, to the fraternity in Australia, result in no benefits whatever. It is not now, nor will it be, until time and the progress of events change the order of things compelling acquiescence, the disposition of either the English or Scotch Grand Lodge to yield anything which tends to a severance of their authority where it once has a foot-hold. This disposition has been strikingly manifested in more cases than one, and we doubt whether a new Grand Lodge would ever be organized from English or Scotch subordinates under any conditions or circumstances, with their full and prior consent thereto.

Bro. Reed also submitted the general and usual

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE,

Which is perfected in his accustomed clear and interesting style. His review includes the proceedings of 49 Grand Lodges. The report of Alabama for 1878 receives due consideration, and his comments thereon are somewhat extended, but not objectingly so, on the contrary he decidedly approves.

He gives prominence to Grand Master Armstrong's address and quotes freely from it, and also notices most of doings at that communication which were not strictly local in character and effect.

He gives the writer too much credit for a "ready and facile pen," for, in very truth, we are more ready (and willing) than the *pen is*, and our facilities are lessening day by day. Somehow, perhaps because of the "spots on the sun," the light of our eyes ("those of other days," for instance,) are dimmer than of yore. It can't be *age* of course. Bro. Reed invites us to a real clam bake (oh, how we long to accept Washington favors of that ilk), as thus.

California had a clam bake at "old Saucelito," which was so captivatingly described, in their minutes of 1877, that we became enthused and uttered our longing for a *closer* contact with one of the "same sort." After quoting our remarks to that effect, Bro. Reed says:

Bro. Beers, Californians are a whole-souled, witty, humerous and mirth-loving people, but they know little experimentally of the *juice* and

merits of a genuine "clam bake." Come to Puget Sound, the "fountain head," if thou wouldst revel in bi-valvous luxury. Scattered all around, bivalves choice are going to waste; come to Puget Sound if clam (orous) for a taste.

Now, isn't it a pity? We are desperately intent upon accepting, and yet *can't* go. Cruel, cruel fate, thus to separate us from the *juice* of clams and the jollity of a bake! The will is good, Bro. Reed, but the purse is so empty as to be decidedly weak--indeed, it has collapsed—otherwise, we would surely sound the *clam* waters of Puget instanter.

We note that Bro. Reed retires from reportorial labors with this review, and regret that we shall no longer hold sweet converse with him. We had just begun "to know and love him, too," when he, alas! forsakes us. Adieu!

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Oliver Perry Lacy.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Thomas Milburn Reed (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Total of Lodges, 30—one of them U. D.

WEST VIRGIANA, 1879.

This M. W. Grand Lodge after three special communications, held severally at Ravenswood, December 27th, 1878, at Hedgeville, May 3d, 1879, and at the same place, November 1st, 1879, for ceremonial duties, came into Grand Annual Communication (its 15th), on Tuesday, November 11th, A. D. 1879.

Present, M. W. Grand Master George Baird, with 76 of her 81 constituent Lodges represented.

The Grand Master's address gives token of fair progress and the fair condition of the Craft in his jurisdiction. He is decidedly impressed that the interests of the Lodges are injured by the prevalence of the ambitious Templars, and says some true things about the effect on the BLUE of the effort of Chapter and Commandery Masons to secure recruits; but says too much, we think. The following quotation gives the gist of his complaint, yet it is but a small portion of his comment on that topic, viz:

> In closing my official relations with you as Grand Master, I would beg leave to direct your attention to a matter, which has, for some time, seemed to me to be a growing evil, in some parts of our jurisdiction; and also one, upon which your Grand Body cannot legislate. It is presented here now more with the hope that Masons, who are engaged in it may be induced to pause and reflect and of themselves make a change than with any desire to have your Grand Body attempt to legislate upon it. The subject referred to is the gradual overshadowing of both Lodge and Chapters by the Commanderies. The idea seems to be slowly, but

surely, taking possession of the minds of large numbers of our members, that to be a Sir Knight is the whole end and aim of Masonry, that in Templarism is the realization of everything great and good pertaining to the Order. And the unfortunate brother, who through poverty or lack of opportunity has failed to become entitled to "wield his sword in defense of innocent maidens, destitute widows, helpless orphans and the Christian religion," is being gradually taught to feel that his Masonic life has been a failure, and that his longer continuance in membership in the Fraternity can hardly be tolerated. The Lodges are looked on as organizations for the preparing recruits for the Commanderies and the initiate is solicited to go into a certain Commandery before he has learned enough Masonry to be passed to the degree of F. C. * * *

We see no matter of special interest in the minutes suggesting comment, or likely to affect other jurisdictions. This Grand Lodge works generally by the Trestle board of *old* Virginia. No report on Correspondence.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Jno. W. Arbuckle.....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. O. S. Long (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Total of Lodges..... 81

WISCONSIN, 1879.

The Grand Lodge of Wisconsin held its 35th annual communication in the city of Milwaukee, commencing Tuesday, June 10th, A. D. 1879; accomplishing a vast amount of routine work—holding a Lodge of Sorrow, and discussing important foreign complications all in one day—the minutes give but one date to all proceedings.

Present, M. W. Grand Master Charles F. G. Collins, with 175 (of their 188) constituent Lodges represented. We note also the presence of over 20 P. G. Officers, and many Grand Representatives, Brother Joseph Hamilton doing the needful in that position for Alabama.

The work seems to have glided along smoothly and rapidly, and we judge from the harmony of the session, as well as from the full attendance of its constituents, that the Masons of Wisconsin know their duties and take pleasure in the prompt and efficient performance of them.

The Grand Master's address is a very good official report, or rather, executive message.

He announces with sincere regret the death of their Grand Chaplain, Bro. Joshua Britton, and their Lodge of Sorrow, held on the evening of the 10th, appropriately commemorates his virtues.

Two Dispensations for new Lodges were granted.

The Grand Master discusses intelligently the Scotland-Quebec difficulty, condemning the action of Scotland, but advising in favor of re-

monstrance with rather than denunciation of
ject is treated of in a special report of the C
ence, and at their suggestion the Grand Lo
little at variance, we think, with the Gran
with the following, viz:

Resolved, That all Masons of this jurisdict
forbidden to recognize as Masons or hold any
ever, with the members of any Lodge of the
Lodge of Quebec which does not yield implic
Lodge.

The Grand Master's decisions are not ove
some of them are strange enough to startl
We quote two of them, remarking that they w
to by the Committee on Jurisprudence, when

(9) *Balloting.*
Our regulations make it the duty of every
lieve it proper and within the province of
"duty" under some circumstances.
(10.) *Jurisdiction over Candidate who has b*
Sec. 10, Art XXII, of the Constitution of
new petition and ballot if a candidate for in
one year. Hence I think a fair construction
other Lodge to receive and act upon a petit
been elected in your Lodge more than one
resided in their jurisdiction one year imme
plication.

The Grand Master also decides in favor
requisite qualification for a W. M. He is a l
if the loss of an eye is a fatal bar to initiatior
dim blinkers, near-sighted, and requiring gla
better qualified than he of the one eye—poss
as to qualification of applicants for the degr
liberal, and in this he has our sympathy.

He alludes with appropriate words of sy
sufferers of 1878, and is justly proud of the
the Masons of his jurisdiction, some $4,000 h
them.

A Jewel and Apron were presented to Pa
Cottrill, a token of respect and acknowledg
service to the Grand Lodge and the Fraterni

THE REPORT ON CORRESPO

Is from the pen and brain of R. W. Bro. J
alike with the general proceedings of this co

the Grand Lodge of which he is the able Grand Secretary as well as Correspondent.

He reviews the proceedings of most of our American Grand Lodges, and regrets the absence of several reports which had not reached him. He gives the Alabama report for 1878 full space and judicious comment. Takes exception to Grand Master Armstrong's decision against burying non-affiliates, etc., and thinks such matters should be left to the discretion of the Lodges. The same as to Masons suspended for N. P. D. Thinks (correctly too,) that many are in that *fix* by injudicious Lodge action, and in both cases the Lodge ought have the privilege of deciding upon the proper course to be pursued in individual cases.

The general tone of his remarks on our work is favorable.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. Charles F. G. Collins (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. John W. Woodhull (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.

Total of Lodges 188, and 1 U. D.

WYOMING, 1879.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Wyoming Territory commenced its 5th annual communication at Laramie City, on Tuesday, October 14th, A. D. 1879.

Present, M. W. James H. Hayford, Grand Master, with the Representatives of four (of their five) constituent Lodges, several Past Grand Officers, and the Representatives of thirteen Grand Lodges (Alabama not represented,) were also in attendance.

No very important business appears to have been transacted beyond the expulsion of the W. M. of Cheyenne Lodge No. 1—one LEVERETT COOPER STEVENS—on charges of gross misconduct and disobedience of Grand Lodge summons, etc.

The Grand Master's address is brief but comprehensive. He urges the necessity of effort to give additional interest to Lodge meetings, and in that connection makes the following useful suggestion, viz :

> We must then contrive some way to make our Lodge meetings *attractive* and *instructive*. How this is to be accomplished must be left mainly to the tact and ingenuity of the Master. One very good way would be to assign to some member of the Lodge, at each communication, one of the emblems upon the Chart to think, study and write about, and at the next meeting to devote a half hour or more to hearing how much light, how much moral and Masonic instruction he and others could deduce from it. By the time the Chart had been thus gone through with, you would all be surprised to find what wonderful progress you had made in securing more light in Masonry, and a general interest on the subject would be awakened.

In closing he says:

The Grand Lodge of Wyoming is yet young in years, and represents a comparatively small membership, but I have never had reason to doubt the wisdom and expediency of its organization. In no jurisdiction is better material selected or better work done, and nowhere does the primitive spirit of brotherly love, relief and truth find a healthier existence than among the Masonic brethren of this jurisdiction. May we all exemplify in our lives the grand tenets which we profess; may we carry up only good work, true work, square work, such as shall be accepted by the Grand Architect of the Universe.

Following the Grand Master's address, the Grand Orator, Rev'd Bro. Henry L. Myrick, delivered an Oration—one of erudite and philosophical dissertations that we never tire of perusing, especially when, as in this case, the thought is vigorous and the diction pure and classic. He dwells much upon the origin of ideas, as to man's being and destiny, including, of course, his conceptions of soul and religion, and alleges that the Seers of old knew as much as the highest modern intellects have discovered of man's spiritual nature and possible destiny. Descending from the speculative and antique, to the practical and modern demands of Masonry, he gives us a useful suggestion as to present duty and privilege, viz:

It is devoutly to be wished that every brother could thoroughly appreciate the fact that he belongs to the most powerful organization in the civilized world, next to its bitter foe, the church of Rome—and the only institution of which that church is afraid—so that, believing this, he might be more keenly alive to his responsibilities to it. We sometimes hear it said by superficial thinkers that Masonry has nothing to do with religion or politics! That it is utterly indifferent to the temporary, local aspects of theological sectarianism or political partizanship, we well know, as it always must be unless perverted. But religion and politics, the two greatest of all human interests, in their final analyses, are based upon love to God and love to man; and, if Masonry does not teach and reiterate these truths and duties, it teaches nothing. If any man among us is not better fitted for the discharge of his religious and political duties, according to his own candid and conscientious conception of them, through his membership in the Fraternity, he may be very sure it is his own shallowness which prevents him from becoming so. For Masonry is the great conservator of those essential religious and political principles upon which the welfare and true progress of mankind depend. Clearly understood and appreciated, it is the "power behind the throne," and the foundation on which any church, worthy of the name, must rest. Unfortunately, however, Masonry does not wield, as she should, the power she possesses in consequence of the common indifference and too frequent unworthiness of her children.

A special report on

CORRESPONDENCE

Discusses the situation as to Scotland and Quebec, New South Wales,

etc., condemning Scotland and sympathizing with New South Wales, but recommending no positive action as to recognition. It is a good and very judicious report creditable to Bro. Tonn's conservatism, and intelligence as well.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. James H. Hayford (re-elected).....Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Wm. G. Tonn (re-elected).....Grand Secretary.
Total of Lodges..... 5.

CONCLUSION.

We have discuseed in the foregoing pages, incidentally as the topics presented themselves in the Reports under review, several very important questions of Masonic usage and government. Three of these subjects, viz., "SUSPENSIONS FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES," "CONCURRENT G. LODGE JURISDICTION," and "THE PAST MASTER'S (CHAPTER) DEGREE," we allude to again for the purpose of briefly (not dogmatically, however,) and emphatically recording our views thereon, and of warning the Fraternity against the dangers which lurk under these apparently harmless practices or principles of the day. First—SUSPENSIONS FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES."

We view with anxiety and alarm the immense annual loss to the Fraternity resulting from this mode of UN-LODGING Masons (causing, also, Dimits for *fear* of suspension, claimed by parties whose income is diminishing, etc.) It commenced by hundreds, and now aggregates thousands annually. Such suspensions are easily effected, generally without trial, or even summons, under stringent if not inflexible Lodge rules. The By-Laws authorizing such deprivation of Masonic rights, are really designed to protect Lodge revenues; but being harshly and in many instances, as we believe, cruelly enforced, the result is the reverse of what was intended, and the Lodge, in the end, suffers loss both in income and in members. We know of cases where wise and true Masons have suffered from the over-strict enforcement of such laws, and, doubtless, could the facts be ascertained, many of the recent suspensions for N. P. D. are cases where *poverty* alone caused the dereliction. Shall good Masons be disgraced for such cause? Verily, we fear the "almighty dollar" has closed the eyes of Dame CHARITY, and that the business of *collections* is becoming the *ultima thule* of Lodge duties! If the wrong we suggest really exists, let it be righted at once, for we can not prosper while treating those of our own household unjustly and uncharitably. The MAN is greater than the DOLLAR, and *we* prefer the greater to the less.

Second—"CONCURRENT JURISDICTION."

This fallacy is the antitheses of "Supreme Grand Sovereignty, and is as directly antagonistic to it as can well be predicated of antagonisms. The American doctrine of supremacy, as applied to Grand Lodges, within the bounds of their prescribed territories, is the only principle guaranteeing peace and harmony among our numerous Grand Jurisdictions. Limited sovereignty, disguised under the name of "CONCURRENT JURISDICTION," must away with all the other errors put aside, heretofore, in our progress towards uniformity and harmony in governmental relations, or confusion and contention will soon cloud a future now so bright with promise of good will, success, and progress.

No matter under what pretext the interference of "concurrent jurisdiction" is attempted to be excused, it is simply and only, in principle and result, a degradation of the Governing Power encroached upon.

As well might FRANCE claim to govern a province in GERMANY, and expect the peaceful assent of the latter, as an intruding Grand Lodge hope to escape contention and remonstrance, in the attempt to control Lodges in another jurisdiction. This is *not* the way of peace, and we regret to note that several of our Grand Bodies, while *assenting* to the doctrines of G. L. Sovereignty, still claim the right to govern Lodges within the prescribed and *admitted* territory of another Grand Lodge.

Third—THE PAST MASTER'S DEGREE.

We will add but a few words to what has already been said upon this topic. To require a W. M. to take a CHAPTER degree before he can preside over his Lodge, is, to our thinking, an anomaly—a rule which, if inflexibly adhered to, is suggestive of very serious and possibly disastrous consequences to the Lodge.

SYMBOLIC MASONRY is the *foundation*, the prophecy and potency of all Masonic degrees, of Masonic organizations—indeed, all others would inevitably fall without the firm support of its great pillars of "Wisdom. Strength, and Beauty." This being so, then why require the parent of Masonry to be dependent upon her offspring for life and continuance? Without officers, the Lodge can not survive; nor under this rule is a Lodge capable of supplying its own officers, for the advocates of the P. M.'s degree require, in effect, and really, too, that the CHAPTER shall supply the LODGE with qualified Masters and Wardens, thus making the BLUE subservient to the RED. This, we think, is a fair though brief statement of the case, and if so, it is "*reductio ad absurdum*" as to the question in controversy. The dependent controlling the original and sustaining organization is a reversal of all order in government. But if this degree is so essential as a qualification for Lodge officers, as its advocates claim, then why not *restore* it to the LODGE, *where it originally belonged*, and stay this dispute? By this means, the independence and self-perpetuating power of SYMBOLIC MASONRY will be fully assured.

The Chapter, according to our reading, has aggrandized this degree from the Lodge in the past. Let her give back what she has taken away, and the Lodge will again do her own perfect work as of yore. We speak thus, not as loving the Chapter less, but the Lodge more.

With a pleasant word of adieu to all readers, whether called Brothers, Companions, or Fraters, and thanks to our comrades of the quill for many kind but too flattering notices of our work in this department, we gladly call from labor to refreshment.

We append the promised alphabetically-arranged list of proceedings reviewed herein—51 in all.

OLIVER S. BEERS,
For the Committee.

REPORTS REVIEWED.

Arkansas	1879	Missouri	1879
British Columbia	1879	Montana	1879
California	1879	Nebraska	1879
Canada	1879	New Brunswick	1880
Colorado	1879	New Hampshire	1880
Colon-Cuba	1880	New Jersey	1880
Connecticut	1880	New Mexico	1880
Dakota	1879-1880	New York	1880
Delaware	1879	North Carolina	1879
District of Columbia	1879	Nova Scotia	1879
Florida	1879-1880	Ohio	1879
Idaho	1879	Oregon	1879
Illinois	1879	Pennsylvania	1879
Indiana	1880	Prince Edward Island	1879
Indian Territory	1879	Quebec	1879
Iowa	1879	Rhode Island	1879
Kansas	1879	South Carolina	1879
Kentucky	1879	Tennessee	1879
Louisiana	1880	Texas	1879
Maine	1880	Utah	1879
Manitoba	1880	Virginia	1879
Maryland	1879	Washington Territory	1879
Massachusetts	1879	West Virginia	1879
Michigan	1880	Wisconsin	1879
Minnesota	1880	Wyoming	1879
Mississippi	1880		

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

With the number of Members, amount of Dues paid to the Grand Lodge, and the number of those Entered, Passed, Raised, Affiliated, Rejected, and Dimitted, since last Return.

Lodge Number.	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members	Amount of Dues	Entered	Passed	Raised	Affiliated	Rejected	Dimitted.
1	Helion	55	$55 00	1	1	1			2
4	Rising Virtue	36	17 00	3	1	1	4		4
6	Moulton	50	22 00	2	2	2	2		3
7	Macon	31	14 00				1		1
8	Farrar	22	11 00	2	2	2			10
10	Royal White Hart	52	25 00	1	1	2	1	1	1
11	Montgomery	60	29 50	4	3	3	3		3
16	Athens	51	23 00				2	2	4
22	Saint Albans	24	12 00	4	4	5	1	2	
25	Dale	47	22 00	2	2	1	3		
24	La Fayette	31	15 50	2	1				1
27	Selma Fraternal	87	43 50	2	2	2			
29	Rising Sun	37		1	1	1	3		2
31	Autauga	33	16 00	1					1
36	Washington	26	13 00						2
37	Courtland	22	11 00				1		1
39	Wetumpka	39	18 00	5	3	2	4		2
40	Mobile	88	43 00	1	1				2
41	Livingston	27	12 50	1	1		2		2
42	Hiram	24	12 00						2
44	Gaston	21	9 50	2	2	2			
46	Harmony	65	32 50	5	7	6		1	4
49	Demopolis	28	14 00		1		1		3
50	Union	40	19 50				1		3
51	Jefferson	23	20 50	2	2	2			2
52	New Market	20	10 00						
53	Greening	40	19 50				6		
54	Amity	41	19 00	2	1	1			1
55	Mount Moriah		16 50						
56	Troy	100	48 00	1	2	3	9	2	5
57	Tuskegee	35	17 00		1	1			1
59	Benton	35	17 50	6	5	5		2	
61	Tompkinsville	20	9 50	1	1	1	2		1

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

Lodge Number	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members.	Amount of Dues.	Entered.	Passed.	Raised.	Affiliated.	Rejected.	Dimitted.
62	Saint Johns	54	$27 00	4	4	3	5		3
63	Social	12	6 00						1
64	Eureka	55	26 00	2	2	2	4	1	3
65	Liberty	25	12 50	2	2		4		3
67	Hampden Sidney	28	14 00	5	5	4			
68	Holsey	16	7 50	1	1	1	2		1
69	Howard	59	28 00	2	2	1	1	1	5
70	Central	34	17 00						3
71	Tohopeka	35	17 00						2
72	Widow's Son	19	9 00				1		2
75	Cokerville	34	16 50	1	1	1	1	1	1
76	Auburn	21	8 50			1			6
78	Crozier	28	14 00		3				1
79	Fredonia	21	10 00	1			3		
80	Wilcox	20	10 00	1	1	2			
81	Saint Stephens	31	14 00	2	4	4			
82	Bellefonte	23	34 50						
83	Friendship	19	21 00	1	2	2	1		
84	Erophotic	38	18 50	7	7	4	3		
88	Meridian Sun	13	6 00	1	1	1			2
89	Prattville	41	20 50			2	1		
90	Pfister	21	10 50						
91	Henry	43	20 50	3	2	3			
96	Tuckabatchee	39	19 00	3	3	3	2	1	
97	Lozahatchee	54	26 50	4	4	4			
98	Fulton	27	12 50	4	4	4			2
99	Salem	21	10 00				1		4
101	Hartwell	34	17 00	5	4	3	4		1
102	Newbern	11	12 00	2	1		2	2	3
104	Good Samaritan	28					1		
105	Shiloh	20	8 50	3	3	1			3
106	Hermon	26	12 00	1	1	1			2
107	Choctaw	17	7 50						
108	Oak Bowery	19	9 00	1	1	1	1		
110	Forest Hill	37	35 50	1	1				
111	Sylvan	24	23 00				2		7
117	Perryville	17	8 50						
119	Notasulga	36	14 50	1	1	1	1		1
120	Camp Hill	22	11 00	1	1				3
123	Havana	19	18 50		1	1	1		1
124	Felix	20	10 50	2	2	2			4
125	Herndon	29							
126	Mortimer Reeder	21	9 50						

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

Lodge Number.	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members	Amount of Dues.	Entered.	Passed.	Raised.	Affiliated.	Rejected.	Dimitted.
127	Bolivar	29	$36 50						1
131	Yorkville	35	17 00	3	3	2	1		1
132	Roanoke		35 00						
133	Loachapoka	20							4
134	Wiley	14	7 00						3
135	Columbia	44	21 00	3	4	3	3	3	1
136	Unity	37	17 50				1		3
140	Shelby	59	27 00	5	6	6	1	1	
141	Bethel	27	12 50	1	1	1			2
142	Baldwin	19	9 50	4	1	2	1		1
143	Burleson	25	11 50	4	2	2		2	7
144	Daleville	12	5 50	1					1
145	Fraternity	39	19 00	3	2	2	6	1	2
146	Missouri	17	15 50				1		
147	Rodgersville	13				1			1
148	Cold Water	29	13 00			1	2	1	
153	Monroeville	26	12 50				1		2
154	Nixburgh	21	8 50	2	1	1			
155	Eastaboga	15							4
158	Mayaville	36	41 50				1		1
163	Fayetteville Authentic	15	6 50	1	1		1		1
166	Sumter	10	4 50				1		4
169	Buena Vista	11	5 50			1			
170	Elba	39	18 50	1	1	1	2	1	1
171	Clopton	15	7 50	2	1	1			1
172	Fellowship	45	21 00	1	1	1	1		
173	Andrew Jackson	10	54 50	4	3	4	5		1
175	Ezel	13	9 00	1	1		1		
176	Davie	14	7 00	2	1	1			
178	Desotoville	36	16 50	1	1	1	1		
180	Mount Hilliard	20	10 00						
181	Aberfoil	16	7 00	3	3		1		
185	Mount Eagle		8 00						
186	Cataula		15 00						
187	Landmark	18	17 50	3	3	3	1		4
188	Clintonville	24	12 00	1	1	1			
189	Delta	15	15 00	1	1	1	2		1
190	Tombigbee	20	9 50	2	2	1	1		1
191	Brush Creek	13	6 50						1
192	Chattahoochee	19	9 00	3	3	3	1		1
193	Hopewell	36	17 50	1	1	1	1		
197	Hillabee	48	45 50	2					
199	Kiligee	26	13 00	2	2	2			2

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

Lodge Number.	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members.	Amount of Dues.	Entered.	Passed.	Raised.	Affiliated.	Rejected.	Dimitted.
200	Sylacauga	34	$16 00	1	1	1			1
203	Valley	13	6 50	1	1	1			
204	Manning Spring	14	6 50				1		
207	Pettusville	29	12 00	1	1	1			3
208	Alexandria	23	10 50		2	2	2		1
209	Marshall	26	13 00	2					
211	York	53	28 00	2	2			1	5
215	Builders	33	16 50		1			1	2
217	Spring Hill	13						1	1
218	Sam Dixon	40	19 50	1			1	1	
219	Luneville	47	19 50			1	1		1
222	Western Star	29	13 50	1			1		1
223	Sandy Ridge	[illegible]	11 00	1	1	1	1		2
224	Newton	39	19 00	6	6	5	1		
225	Louisville	25	11 50	2	2	1	[illegible]		1
226	Santa Fe	21	9 00	1					
227	James Penn	32	15 50				1	1	1
230	Bexar	34	35 00	2	2	2		1	3
231	Duck Spring	32	27 50	2	2	[illegible]	1	1	2
233	Sepulga	25	11 00	3	2	2	2		
235	Harpersville	23	11 50	1	1	1	2		
237	Tallassee	14	6 50						
238	Fairmount	23	8 00	2	2	1	1	1	
241	Bowen	34	17 00				1		
242	Coosa	30	15 00	3	1	1			
243	Ramer	20	9 50	2	2	2	1		2
244	Dawson	33	16 00	1			[illegible]		
246	Harrison	29	13 50	1	1	1	2	1	3
247	Cropewell	34	26 00	3	3	3	2		2
248	Lawrence	36	17 00	2	1				1
250	Amand	24	11 00	3	5	5	2	1	
251	Camp Creek	18	8 50						
252	North Port	38	18 00	1	1	1		1	
254	Quitman	15	12 50						1
257	Ervin	39	15 50	2	2	1			
258	Randolph	25	20 00						2
260	Bellville	27							
261	Talladega	53	25 50				2	1	3
262	Highland	24	9 50						1
264	Walnut Grove	55	51 00	2	2	2	7	1	
265	Meridian	45	20 00	1	1	1	2		1
266	Mount Pleasant	[illegible]	5 25						
267	Wind Creek	29	13 50	4	3	3			1

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

Lodge Number.	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members	Amount of Dues.	Entered	Passed.	Raised	Affiliated.	Rejected.	Dimitted
270	Butler Springs	32	$16 00	..	..	3	..	..	3
271	Pea River	24	21 00	4	4	5	4	..	1
272	Clifton	21	10 50	..	..	1	..	..	1
275	Frankfort	26	12 00	4	3	3	..	3	12
278	Northern	50	24 50	..	..	..	2	..	4
280	Springville	35	16 00	1	1	1	2	1	2
281	Charles Baskerville	25	27 00	..	..	..	1	..	3
282	Richmond	23	22 50	3	3	3	2	..	2
285	Georgiana	35	16 00	1	1	1	2	2	5
286	Walker	19	9 00	1	..	..	..	..	1
287	Clinton	32	15 50	2	2	2	..	..	2
290	Gillespie	13	6 50	1	1	1	2	..	1
291	Fort Deposit	12	5 50	..	..	..	1	..	1
301	Norris	41	20 00	5	3	3	..	1	2
304	Zion	28	13 50	..	..	1	1	..	..
305	Central City	62	31 00	8	3	3	3	..	6
315	Jonesboro	33	15 00	5	3	5	1	4	1
313	Clutteville	10	9 50	1	..	..	..	..	1
320	Warrenton	30	30 50	4	3	3	..	..	3
321	Pleasant Hill	41	16 00	1	2	2	..	..	3
324	Viola	25	12 00	2	1	1	1	..	1
329	Madison Station	19	9 00	..	..	..	..	..	4
330	Forkland	16	16 50	1	1	2	1	..	2
331	Charity	19	9 50	..	..	..	2	..	4
332	Blue Eye	24	10 50	2	1	1	..	..	..
334	Oliver	28	13 50	2	2	2	3	..	3
335	Nanafalia	17	8 50	..	..	..	..	..	..
337	Johnson	27	12 50	..	..	..	1	..	..
338	Georgiana Davis	32	14 00	..	..	..	..	..	..
340	Clear Creek	31	28 50	..	..	..	1	..	1
341	Ragan	28	12 00	1	2	2	1	..	2
344	Pikeville	36	..	..	..	2	2	1	..
345	Echo	35	17 00	3	3	3	1	1	..
346	Hartville	22	10 50	2	2	2	2	..	..
348	Brenville	42	20 50	..	1	1	..	2	..
349	Ozark	54	27 00	1	1	1	1	..	..
350	Sipsey	19	18 00	6	4	3	..	1	..
351	Wilson Williams	30	15 00	5	4	4	2	..	..
353	Rock Mills	34	15 50	1	1	1	1	..	3
354	Heaton	27	12 00	1	..	..	..	..	1
357	Rutledge	25	9 00	3	3	3	2	1	1
358	Barbour	24	19 00	1	2	3	1	..	3
359	Scottsboro	91	30 50	3	1	1	1	..	7

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

Lodge Number.	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members	Amount of Dues.	Entered.	Passed.	Raised.	Affiliated.	Rejected.	Dimitted.
364	Pleasant Site	35	$ ..	5	5	4	4	1	1
365	Houston	33	26 50		1	1			1
366	Potaco	29	..	4	3	3	1		1
367	Chandler	24	11 00	1	..	..			..
368	Cross Plains	52	24 00		1	..	2	1	..
369	Athelstan	38	18 50	2	2	1	2		6
371	Russellville	37	18 50	4	4	4		1	..
373	Bells Landing	19	8 00	..	..		1		..
375	Gainesville	34	16 50		..		..	..	1
376	Santa Creek	22	21 00	..		1	..	..	1
377	Lake City	33	17 00	2	2	1	..	1	3
378	Weogufka	98	14 50	1	1	2		1	1
379	Robert E. Lee	16	14 50	3	3	3		1	4
380	Obatchee	37	33 50	10	11	9	6	2	1
381	E. H. Cook	21	10 00	4	3	3	1		4
382	Waterloo	14	11 00	1	1	1		..	..
383	Ben Pope	22	21 50	2	1				.
384	Birmingham Fraternal	45	22 50	1	2	2	7	1	4
385	Munford	25	10 50	2	2	2		.	1
386	Trinity	18	8 50	6	5	2	3	..	1
388	Newburgh	47	21 00	7	8	10	..	..	6
389	Vernon	40	39 00	4	5	5	3	.	6
390	Weathers	19	15 50	1	..	..	..	..	..
391	North Border	20	9 50	4	3	3	1	..	1
392	Hickory Flat	16	7 50	..	..	..	..	..	1
394	Valley Head	20	9 00	..	..	..	1	..	3
395	Opelika	25	12 00	3	3	3	3	..	1
396	Falkville	..	15 00	..	..	..	..	..	..
398	Hartselle	18	7 00	..	..	..	1	..	..
399	Haw Ridge	21	10 50	4	4	4	4	..	2
400	Hanceville	24	12 00	1	1	1	1	1	3
402	Green Hill	30	13 50	4	4	4	..	2	2
403	Childersburg	16	8 00	3	2	1	1	1	..
404	Hoboken	14	7 00	3	2	1	1	.	1
406	Dorie	27	13 00	2	2	2	1	..	2
408	Hillsboro	20	10 00	..	1	1	1	.	1
409	Poudtown	20	8 50	..	..	3	..	..	1
410	Helena	34	16 50	5	6	5	..	1	3
411	Jemison	27	12 50	..	1	1	..	1	4
412	Amberson	50	23 00	4	4	3	1	2	1
413	High Shoals	20	20 00	2	2	2	2	2	3
414	Sulphur Spring	12	4 50	1	1	1	..	..	.
415	Oak Level	26	10 50	1	2	2	1	..	.

NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

Lodge Number.	Names of Lodges.	No. of Members	Amount of Dues.	Entered.	Passed.	Raised.	Affiliated.	Rejected.	Dimitted.
417	George Smith	19	$ 8 50		1	1	1		1
419	Hilton	16	16 00	5	5	5			1
420	Broomtown	24	11 50	6	6	6			2
421	Cullman Fraternal	27	11 00	3	2	3			
422	Shorterville	36	16 50			4	2		
423	Clanton	38	18 50	5	5	5	1	1	1
424	George Wilson	22	11 00	3	3	1	1		
425	Temple	25	12 00	3	3	1	7		1
426	Daniel Pratt	23	11 50	6	7	7		1	4
427	Coketon	14		3	2		5		

1880.

AT REFRESHMENT ABOVE.

W. A. Boyd, Aug. 1879 R. W. Coltart, Sep. 1879	Helion	No.	1
Isaac N. Owen, Feb, 24	Moulton	"	6
Henry W. Burge, Aug. 27	Macon	"	7
Charles A. Walker, April 1	Farrar	"	8
Creed A. Ingram, Aug. 22	Royal White Hart	"	10
George W. Matthews, July—73 years. John P. Dickinson, Oct. 18—56 years.	Montgomery	"	11
Preston L. Wilkerson, Feb. 7 Richard Small, April 8 David B. Bush, April 14	Saint Albans	"	22
Francis P. M. Gilbert, Aug. 14	Dale	"	25
John S. Tucker, June 17	La Fayette	"	26
Adolphus C. F. Smith, July 29	Selma Fraternal	"	27
John W. Hall, May 28	Courtland	"	37
Eldridge Barker, Dec. 1, 1879 Allen V. Robinson, June 25	Wetumpka	"	39
John H. O'Hara, Dec. 10, '79, 50 years John H. Bostwick, Jan. 27, 65 years. John H Pippin, June 26, 45 years	Mobile	"	40
Larkin W. Cannon, Oct. 4 James B. Hudson Daniel P. Forney, Sep. 10	Hiram	"	42
Thomas Gay, March 10	Gaston	"	44
George Henry Sporman, Oct. 30	Harmony	"	46
Elias Lowengard, Aug. 31, 38 years	Union	"	50
Barney P. Hall, Dec. 19, 1879	Jefferson	"	51
Patrick C. Schoppert, April 8	Amity	"	54
Joseph P. French, Oct. 1879 Alexander M. Jordan, Nov. 8, '79, 71 yrs.	Troy	"	56
William Johnson, Dec. 14, 1879	Benton	"	59
John M. Lightner, Dec. 28, 1879	Saint Johns	"	62
Granville White, March 15	Social	"	63
Seth S May, Dec. 16, 1879 Jeremiah D. Gafford, ——	Eureka	"	64
Michael Elkins, June 29	Howard	"	69
Isaac Johnson, June 7, 62 years	Central	"	70
James T. Sewell, Jan. 10	Tohopeka	"	71
William J. Grady, Sep. 8 Samuel Y. Stett, Sep. 30	Fredonia	"	79
Augustus W. Crum, May 31	Wilcox	"	80
John J. Daniel, Feb. 9. 72 years Benjamin A. Sartin, Aug. 11, 68 years	Erophotic	"	84
Thomas H. Bonner, Nov. 14, 53 years.	Fulton	"	98
Benjamin Johnson, May 14	Hartwell	"	101

Strawder Gaines, June 1	Good
Felix Folsom, Aug. 21	
W. T. Horn, Nov. 9	Choc
Mortimer Reeder, Feb. 13	Mort
William J. Longacre, Sep. 3, 67 years.	Boliv
James M. Allen, Feb. 4, 50 years	York
James T Burdine, Oct. 7, 61 years	
Lewis T. Wimberly, Aug. 28	Loac
Nathan F. Waters, Nov. 8	Wile
Lemuel P. Lathram, Dec. 1, 1879	Colu
James D Clark, June 5	Unity
Richardson J. Jeffrey, June 14	
Thomas Blake, Oct. 30	Beth
Luther M. Hudson, June 5	Frate
James Little, Dec. 4	Nixb
James J. Loveless, Nov. 27	Buen
John Sizemore, March 1, 80 years	Fellc
Asa Holaway	Ezel
Simeon Walton, Oct. 11, 59 years	Deso
James A. Wallace, Sep. 8	Aber
Calvin W. O'Neill, Jan. 17	Hilla
John H Moore, April 8	Sylac
Isham R. Starnes, March 15	Mars
John W. Blanton	York
Elias Steedman	
Charles W, Cottingham.	Sand
John Smith, Dec. 25, 1879, 77 years	Talla
Louis S. Lude, March 22, 40 years	Bow
Samuel M. Sharp, Dec. 28, 1879	Ram
James C. McRee, Oct. 25, 70 years	
Calvin Stevens, Oct. 26, 56 years	
Jesse A. Collins, Aug. 15, 70 years	Crop
Samuel N. Graham, M. G. Feb. 18	Quit
Leroy H. Jones, Feb. 27	Meri
William Johnston, May 5	Winc
Henry Fowler, Jan. 21	Pea
Hillary Arington, June	
Elijah G Gunn, Feb. 7, 26 years	Clift
William Denton, April 17	Fran
Elliott P. Jones, April 18	Char
Henry J. Sumner, Oct. 28, 48 years	Rich
Miles Mullins, Oct. 20	Geon
Phillip Cook, July 10	Norr
Malcolm McMillan, Oct 29	
Columbus C. St. John, Nov. 19, 1879	Wari
Elkanah J. Trottman, May 3	Mad
Holland Little, Oct. 23, 1879	Fork
William Chaney, Nov 15, 1879	Olive
John D. McDugald, Oct. 17	John
Eli M. Wright, April 22	Raga
Thomas Wilson, May 6	Pike
George W. Long, June 17	Hart
Arias Woodham, Sep. 18, 84 years	Ozar
Joshua M. Drummond, Jan. 18	Rock

William D. Heaton, Sept. 13.....	Heaton.....	No. 354
Frederick Bush, Feb. 17.....	Rutledge.....	" 357
Andrew McCullers, July 19, 80 years..	Houston.....	" 365
Jesse Livingston, May 20, 65 years...		
Henry R. Green, May 6.....	Bell's Landing.....	" 373
Alberto Martin, Nov. 24, 1879	Birmingham Fraternal.	" 384
Dudley R. M. Sprayberry, May 6.....	Munford.....	" 385
Nathaniel A. Smith, Feb. 23.....	Newburgh.....	" 388
James E. Moore, May 13.....		
Harvey S. Ferrell, Dec. 25, 1879.....	Helena.....	" 410
R—— G. Stovall, July 26, 72 years...	Sulphur Spring.....	" 414
Simeon Harbison, Nov. 29.....	Cullman Fraternal....	" 421
Richard Bush, March 6, 77 years.....	George Wilson.....	" 424
Henry A. Hall, May 25.....	Daniel Pratt.....	" 426

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

HELION No. 1.—T. J. Robinson, L. H. Black, John J. Dement, Sidney S. Darwin, John A. Erwin, Thomas J. Howe, William H. McAnelly, John F. McDevitt, L. H. Scruggs, R. H. Wilson, Lewis C. Pynchon—11.

RISING VIRTUE No. 4.—William Hester—1.

MOULTON No. 6.—David C. Goodlet, John B. Windham—2.

ROYAL WHITE HART No. 10.—Simon P. Saunders, Hamilton Cox, Wiley E. Jones, George W. Little—4.

DALE No. 25.—O. D. Carstarphen, D. J. Fail, John Eades Gullett, S. S. Stanberry, David McIntosh—5.

LAFAYETTE No. 26.—William D. Burford, William C. Burton, Herbert C. Childress, William N. Knight, Burwell G. Abernethy, James B. Wiley, Laban H. S. Chappelle—7.

SELMA FRATERNAL No. 27.—Charles Goins, Leopold Loeb—2.

MOBILE No. 40.—Green B. Duffee, Augustus P. Dorgan, William J. Davis, Francis T. Forbes, William Keyland, Robert M. Quinn, Thomas F. Sheldon, Isaac R. Young—8.

LIVINGSTON No. 41.—John Wesley DuBose, Isaac W. Horn, Morgan Lynn, Thomas B. Stone—4.

HIRAM No. 42.—James G. Nesbit, James H. Douglas, Matthew J. Turnley, Alexander Wood, William M. Jones, John F. Hubbard, John M. Carroll—7.

HARMONY No. 46.—Robert Cherry, Samuel Bennett, Jackson Finerty, John L. M. McRae, Patrick O'Byrne—5.

DEMOPOLIS No. 49.—Joel J. Bolton, James V. List, A. W. Dillard—3.

UNION No. 50.—William P. Nelson, Hugh Landan—2.

NEW MARKET No. 52.—George F. Strong, Joseph M. Hanbrick, John Orman, John W. Summers—4.

TUSKEGEE No. 57.—George W. Campbell, John A. McBryde, John C. Abercrombie, Algia A. Henderson—4.

HOWARD No. 69.—George B. Johnson—1.

CENTRAL No. 70.—John Frost, Joshua W. West—2.

TOHOPEKA No. 71.—William H. Shepard, Andrew J. Mulican, John F. Carter, John J. Shepard—4.

WIDOW'S SON No. 72.—James L. Hays—1.

AUBURN No. 76.—Alley G. Dowdell, William C. Dowdell, Alexander

Frazer, William B. Frazer, Louis A. Foster, Emory T. Glenn, Green C. Henderson, William O. Moore, Peyton J. Moore, Jacob Rowe, George W. Shelton, Gabriel Selig—12.

CROZIER No. 78.—Emory T. Williams—1.

FRIENDSHIP No. 83.—Josiah S. Kennedy, John A. Lee, Ralph Davis—3.

MERIDIAN SUN No. 88.—Frederic F. Wilson—1.

TUCKABATCHEE No. 96.—Arthur L. Foreman—1.

HARTWELL No. 101.—Richard L. Allen, William M. Taylor, William F. Higgins, Solomon H. Bean, Jesse V. G———, William Georges—6.

NEWBERN No. 102.—Joseph McBoy—1.

HERMON No. 106.—James Cockrell, Thomas J. Gordon—2.

CHOCTAW No. 107.—Warren Ford, Samuel Griffin, C——— W. Britt, J. R. Griffin, W. H. Ford, J. C. O'Hara, J. B. Mortimore, J. W. Dunnane———8.

FOREST HILL No. 110.—W. Jasper Hollingsworth, Samuel T. Winn—2.

SYLVAN No. 111.—James C. Cook, John Skates, A. Howard Sealy—3.

CAMP HILL No. 120.—Harvey J. Bryant, Andrew J. Dawson—2.

FELIX No. 124.—J. T. Kennedy, William C. Jordan, Samuel T. Hall, Matthew W. Hall, Jacob H. Pruett—5.

HERNDON No. 125.—Joseph Carter, John S. McCracken—2.

BOLIVAR No. 127.—James G. Caperton, James Cox, James Russell, F. J. Graham, Israel P. Russell, Francis M. Barrier, William A. Coffey, James L. D. Russell, Andrew Horne, James B. Orendale, Charles L. M. Porter, Anthony C. Loyd, John Johnson, William K. Spiller, Hugh L. Lamb—15.

COLUMBIA No. 135.—James B. Williams, Thomas Robertson—2.

BETHEL No. 141.—Harris H. Wise, John B. Woodard—2.

BALDWIN No. 142.—Wallace W. McMillan, John H. Hastee—2.

FRATERNITY No. 145.—Willis A. Greene, Henry M. Tidmore—2.

MAYSVILLE No. 158.—Perry L. Harrison, A. C. Pitts, Andrew J. Byrns, Sugar B. Middleton, John McMullin, Frederick T. Givens, Kible T. Daniel, James E. Lawler, Green A. McMullin, John D. Stovall, John W. Campbell, William Duncan, James N. Radford, William Hodges—14.

FAYETTEVILLE AUTHENTIC No. 163.—Silas Gardner, William Brewer, William Perryman, William D. Booz, Oliver N. Cooper—5.

BUENA VISTA No. 169.—William T. Hubbard—1.

ELBA No. 170.—Samuel W. Stinson—1.

FELLOWSHIP No. 172.—Jackson Hicks, Samuel Dowdle—2.

ANDREW JACKSON No. 173.—William J. Reese, Gothold L. Werth, Coleman B. Ferrell—3.

LANDMARK No. 187.—William S. Fisher—1.

VALLEY No. 203.—Henry T. Waldrop, Charles W. Henderson—2.

MANNING SPRING No. 204.—Charles C. McDade—1.

LINEVILLE No. 219.—James L. Barnhill, L. M. Barney, Arch A. Young, Elisha Suggs, Thomas D. Halpin—5.

SANDY RIDGE No. 223.—Edward P. Moore—1.

NEWTON No. 224.—Thomas J. Murphy—1.

LOUISVILLE No. 225.—James J. Bradley, John R. A. Passmere, Malcolm Gillis—3.

SANTA FE No. 226.—Peter Guin, Seth J. Parker, Henry Briars, John W. Daffin, Daniel Howell, Frank W. Baker, Lafayette W. McCoy, Thomas B. Savage, Absalom L. Payne—9.

DUCK SPRING No. 231.—George F. Roden, Samuel Burns—2.

HARPERSVILLE No. 235.—William L. Dickerson, William Salster, Lewis Watson, Elisha W. Holland, Edwin C. Lide—5.

DAWSON No. 244.—Franklin H. Ausley, William Bryan, John A. Ruffin, George Shell—4.

HARRISON No. 246.—William A. C. Gibson, Jalens S. Perdue, James M. Gibson, Asa D. Lowery—4.

CROPWELL No. 247.—Samuel P. McClelen—1.

LAWRENCE No. 248.—William S. Corbitt—1.

CAMP CREEK No. 251.—William T. Trainum—1.

QUITMAN No. 254.—John H. Sims—1.

BELLVILLE No. 260.—Willis Thompson, Solomon S. Forbes, Pinkney Giddens, William T. Hawthorn—4.

WALNUT GROVE No. 261.—James Morton, Asa R. Murphree, Moses L. Ferguson, Jeremiah Gregory, William Gregory, James T. Thompson—6.

WIND CREEK No. 267.—Isaac J. Burson, James D. Land—2.

PEA RIVER No. 271.—Daniel Kiser—1.

CLIFTON No. 272.—Edmund Gaillard—1,

NORTHERN No. 278.—James R. Johnson—1.

CHARLES BASKERVILLE No. 281.—Levi Lindsey, Ellis Logan, William A. Blackburn—3.

GEORGIANA No. 285.—James M. Smith—1.

FORT DEPOSIT No. 291.—Jesse F. Barganier—1.

NORRIS No. 301.—James D. Henly, James T. Adams, Willis Garner—3.

ZION No. 304.—Martin C. Bolling—1.

CENTRAL CITY No. 305.—Prelate D. Barker, Darby M. Calloway, Joseph P. Ferguson, William A. Medley, Robert H. Hurt—5.

CLUTTSVILLE No. 319.—John Frazier—1.

MADISON STATION No. 329.—William F. Pledge, Arthur H. Lewis, James M. Bailey, Roderick P. Ennis—4.

CLEAR CREEK No. 340.—William West, John A. Thomas, Paul Ingle,

William Jackson, Willis Faris, Thomas J. Cowart, Thomas M. Martin—7.

Ragan No. 341.—Jesse Carrol—1.

Echo No. 345.—Benjamin R. Newton, James E. Brannan, William I. Baldwin, John W. Stuckey, Paul H. Preston, Matthew R. Howell, Charles H. Newman—7.

Hurtville No. 346.—John M. King—1.

Ozark No. 349.—Edward Dowling, Stephen C. D. Brown, David M. Byrd, William A. Cumbie—4.

Sipsey No. 350.—Robert J. Mayfield, Temple Cole, Thomas D. Gardner, Reuben Gardner, James M. Hamner, Jordan J. Elmore, John Elmore, James A. Matchett, James A. J. Wilburn, Richard Marlow, William H. Hamner, William R. Elmore, James S. Shirley—13.

Wilson Williams No. 351.—Nathan F. Jones, Enoch N. Hayes—2.

Heaton No. 354.—James A. Wilson, Pleasant D. Wilson—2.

Scottsboro No. 359.—James Jordan, John C. Garland, Benton C. Horton, Silas Smith, James M. Parks, Benjamin F. Robertson, Young M. Howard—7.

Pleasant Site No. 364.—James C. Kay—1.

Cross Plains No. 368.—Casimns N. Glines—1.

Athelstan No. 369.—Alexander W. De Bardelaben—1.

Weogufka No. 378.—Henry J. Taylor—1.

Robert E. Lee No. 379.—Duke P. Price—1.

Ben Pope No. 383.—Richmond T. Hammond, Francis M. Whimpee, Rolen Bearden, Levi Worthington—4.

Birmingham Fraternal No. 384.—Joseph A. Kelly, James H. Shaap—2.

Trinity No. 386.—James L. Carey—1.

Vernon No. 389.—George M. Hughey, Bluford McDaniel, Isaac H. Sanders, John E. Graves, Samuel Ward, John Wofford—6.

Hickory Flat No. 392.—Seaborn W. Smith, Jackson Ussery, Isaac R. Stevens, Daniel W. Holliday—4.

Hanceville No. 400.—Samuel R. Weems—1.

Helena No. 410.—William Beckett—1.

Amberson No. 412.—James Morgan—1.

Broomtown No. 420.—James Jackson, William Tallent, James McCullough—3.

REINSTATED.

HELION No. 1.—Septimus D. Cabaniss, Albert A. Baker, Lewis M. Seat, Napoleon B. Grayson, John R. Johnson, Thomas H. Hewlett—6.

RISING VIRTUE No. 4.—Hugh Kirkman, Hickman P. Walker, Joseph Voyle—3.

MOULTON No. 6.—Samuel C. Alexander, William H. Hill, David L. Dinsmore, James L. Stevens—4.

MACON No. 7.—J. Marion Moore—1.

ROYAL WHITE HART No. 10.—John U. Rollins, Hart Collins, James F. Walker, Samuel F. Lightner, James C. Flournoy, Louis B. Bush, Walter S. White, John E. Thomas, Augustus S. Borders, Jesse B. Bowdon, Thomas Kennedy, John U. Dent, Council Bush, Monroe Warren—14.

MONTGOMERY No. 11.—Augustus Davis, Isaac Schwartz—2.

DALE No. 25.—S. G. Cochran, William A. George—2.

LA FAYETTE No. 26.—Edmund W. Booker, Charles E. Waller, Francis M. Moore—3.

SELMA FRATERNAL No. 27.—James P. Howard, Joseph May—2.

RISING SUN No. 29.—Edward N. G. Kimble, Melvin M. Hamaker—2.

WASHINGTON No. 36.—John R. Green—1.

COURTLAND No. 37.—Joseph Wheeler, Henry W. Lightfoot, John W. Hall—3.

WETUMPKA No. 39.—Richard Smoot, Allen V. Robinson, McKinney Thomas—3.

UNION No. 50.—Lou A. Simms—1.

AMITY No. 54.—William B. Martin—1.

TOMPKINSVILLE No. 61.—Leonidas Alston, John M. Johnston—2.

EUREKA No. 64.—John E. Goldson—1.

HOLSEY No. 68.—Thomas H. B. Rivers—1.

HOWARD No. 68.—Claudius E. Sadler, James W. Clifford—2.

CENTRAL No. 70.—Henry Backus—1.

TOHOPEKA No. 71.—Levi Turner, William T. Gardner—2.

CROZIER No. 78.—James C. Wilson—1.

FREDONIA No. 79.—Winston W. Gray, David R. Coleman, William W. Herndon—3.

EROPHOTIC No. 84.—Burrell R. Bradley—1.

MERIDIAN SUN No. 88.—Daniel B. Edwards, Leonidas R. Sullivan—2.
HENRY No. 91.—James J. Head, James Gillespie—2.
FULTON No. 98.—William P. Benning, Richard H. Roark—2.
SALEM No. 99.—J—— A. Fero—1.
HARTWELL No 101.—Benjamin Johnson, John A. Nicholson, William J. Borden—3.
SHILOH No. 105.—James H. Threadgill—1.
FOREST HILL No. 110.—James P. Caspar, John R. Brandon, Elbert Jordan—3.
SYLVAN No. 111.—Henry L. Wood—1.
PERRYVILLE No. 117.—Napoleon J. B. Suttles, Benjamin F. Garrison, John White, Ira H. Huff—4.
CAMP HILL No. 120.—Samuel F. Kersh, John C. Forbs—2.
FELIX No. 124.—Robert H. Griffin, Lewis Christian, Morgan Johnson—3.
HERNDON No. 125.—Richard D. Templeton—1.
YORKVILLE No. 131.—Andrew J. Pridmore—1.
LOACHAPOKA No. 133.—James S. Bedell, John J. Nelms—2.
COLUMBIA No. 135.—Wiley Williams—1.
SHELBY No. 140.—Elbert H. Sawyer, David H. Dunlap—2.
BETHEL No. 141.—Jefferson Miller, Noah P. Beason, Thomas Blake—3.
BALDWIN No. 142.—Virgil E. Crawford—1.
FRATERNITY No. 145.—Maximillian Tidmore, Abram B. Moody—2.
MISSOURI No. 146.—Daniel McLean—1.
COLD WATER No. 148.—Joshua Thrasher, Newbern B. Durrett—2.
NIXBURGH No. 154.—William W. Dillard—1.
MAYSVILLE No. 158.—William P. Hill—1.
SUMTER No. 166.—Francis Y. Townsend, John C. Ezell—2.
ELBA No. 170.—William G. W. Harper—1.
CLOPTON No. 171.—John Harper—1.
FELLOWSHIP No. 172.—James B. Hodo—1.
EZEL No. 175.—John B. Fannin, Robert L. Jackson—2.
MOUNT HILLIARD No. 180.—John J. Griswold, John J. Outler, Isaac Beasley—3.
LANDMARK No. 187.—Edward W. Stephens—1.
BRUSH CREEK No. 191.—Albert M. Avery—1.
HOPEWELL No. 193.—Samuel S. Haviland—1.
HILLABEE No. 197.—Samuel M. Bell, Samuel H. Bell, Bluford L. Dean, William Brooks, Charles A. Matthews, John T. Matthews—6.
SYLACAUGA No. 200.—William Monroe—1.
PETTUSVILLE No. 207.—James J. Dawson—1.
ALEXANDRIA No. 208.—William W. Mason—1.

BUILDERS No. 215.—William A. Conville, Robert N. Johns, William H. Parrott—3.

SAM DIXON No. 218.—James B. Davis, Thomas M. Bothwell—2.

LINEVILLE No. 219.—Solomon Barefield, Aaron Parker, Thomas Hayes—3.

WESTERN STAR No. 222.—John R. Watts, Redin H. Jones—2.

LOUISVILLE No. 225.—James S. Baxter, James A. McLennan, James M. Hobdy, Thomas W. Hasting, Alexander P. Johnson, Edward D. Hughes, James M. Grant, Thomas P. C. Phillips, James Carr—9.

JAMES PENN No. 227.—John B. Potts—1.

DUCK SPRING No. 231.—Jeremiah Roden, Martin F. Scott—2.

HARPERSVILLE No. 235.—Henry E. Florey—1.

FAIRMOUNT No. 238.—John Findley—1.

COOSA No. 242.—John I. Edwards, Julius C. Edwards, Henry Blankersly—3.

RAMER No. 243.—William T. Burgamy, James C. McRee, Calvin Stevens—3.

DAWSON No. 244.—Thaddeus C. Owens—1.

CROPWELL No. 247.—Jefferson Riley—1.

NORTH PORT No. 252.—James H. Fair, Humphry H. Sartain, John H. Koster—3.

ERVIN No. 257.—William F. Sides, Richard T. Latham—2.

RANDOLPH No. 258.—William A Greene—1.

BELLVILLE No. 260.—Batt M. Johnston, James T. Andrews—2.

TALLADEGA No. 261.—Joseph R. Walker, James S. Watson—2.

HIGHLAND No. 262.—Zephaniah W. H. Acton, Rufus H. Walker—2.

WALNUT GROVE No. 264.—Jackson A. Nunnally, Robert C. Word, George W. Harris, John Foster—4.

MERIDIAN No. 265.—John W. Wall, Eldridge B. Hawkins—2.

WIND CREEK No. 267.—Berry Stacks, John Howell—2.

PEA RIVER No. 271.—Love Smith, Joshua Smith, Christopher H. Kizer, Isaac Smith, William McCall—5.

SPRINGVILLE No. 280.—William W. Thompson, Reuben Little, Elbert White—3.

CHARLES BASKERVILLE No. 281.—Benjamin F. Peters—1.

RICHMOND No. 282.—Robert S. Myer, Uriah T. Keenan—2.

GEORGIANA No. 285.—Wiley H. Tynes, Winfield S. Dyass, James W. Darby—3.

WALKER No. 286.—John A. Dean, Washington Wilson, Martin M. Phillips—3.

CLINTON No. 287.—Benjamin S. Bracewell—1.

CENTRAL CITY No. 305.—John J. Pearson—1.

CLUTTSVILLE No. 319.—James A. Phillips—1.

VIOLA No. 324.—James W. Dickerson—1.

MADISON STATION No. 329.—James M. Douthitt—1.

JOHNSON No. 337.—Lorenzo Dow Carnes—1.

CLEAR CREEK No. 340.—David C. Monasco, Josiah Commiens, Daniel G. Mize—3.

ECHO No. 345.—Hansford D. Price—1.

WILSON WILLIAMS No. 351.—Plumpton S. Sidall, Cicero H. Buchanan, Justin F. Buchanan, John W. Hodo—4.

ROCK MILLS No. 353.—Daniel G. Crowder, Wyatt Harper, Joshua M. Drummond—3.

HEATON No. 354.—John W. D. Lancaster—1.

RUTLEDGE No. 357.—James M. Perkins, Pinkney A. Tatum—2.

BARBOUR No. 358.—Thomas J. Perry, John A. Perry—2.

PLEASANT SITE No. 364.—Ream Bolton, Andrew J. Bennette, Bennette White, Elijah P. Grant—4.

RUSSELLVILLE No. 371.—Joseph C. Sibly—1.

WEOGUFKA No. 378.—John McKay—1.

ROBERT E. LEE No. 379.—Thomas H. Branton—1.

WATERLOO No. 382.—Charles M. Hall—1.

BIRMINGHAM FRATERNAL No. 384.—William T. Stewart, James W. Butler—2.

TRINITY No. 386.—Charles T. Royer—1.

NEWBURGH No. 388.—John G. Whitlock—1.

WEATHERS No. 390.—William M. Weathers, Philip Ellingburg, Henry C. Knight, John N. Moore—4.

HILLSBORO' No. 408.—James H. Foster—1.

HELENA No. 410.—David McFarlan—1.

SUSPENDED FOR UNMASONIC CONDUCT.

John Owen	Cokerville	No.	75
Noble Herring	Cold Water	"	148
Abner G. Hammond	Elba	"	170
Joseph Sawyer	Clintonville	"	188
James E. Payne	Delta	"	189
James E. Adams	Tombigbee	"	190
John W. Bowdon, William J. Stephens	Pea River	"	271
Robert R. King	Weogufka	"	378

EXPELLED.

Humphrey P. Whiteside	Crozier	No.	78
William J. Baggett	Clintonville	"	188
William Young	Walnut Grove	"	264
Richard B. Dickinson	Charles Baskerville	"	281
Edwin R. McDonald	Warrenton	"	320
Benjamin R. Franks	Scottsboro	"	359
Newton Brown, John W. Chandler	Chandler	"	367
John L. Holbrook	Cross Plains	"	368
James Crosby Sen'r	Lake City	"	377
Zadoc D. Robinson	Jemison	"	411

LODGES DELINQUENT IN 1880.

FOR NON-REPRESENTATION.

Florence	No.	14	Lawrence	No.	248
George Washington	"	24	Toluca	"	249
Marengo	"	28	Gaylesville	"	256
Rising Sun	"	29	Bellville		260
Washington	"	36	Meridian	"	265
Courtland	"	37	Mount Pleasant	"	266
Havana	"	42	Clifton	"	272
Leighton	"	43	Paint Rock	"	274
Mount Moriah	"	55	Daviston	"	283
Tompkinsville	"	61	Walker	"	286
Social	"	63	Gillespie	"	290
Solomon	"	74	Jonesboro	"	315
Wilcox	"	80	Blue Eye	"	332
Sawyer	"	93	Oliver	"	334
Salem	"	99	Nanafalia	"	335
Benson	"	103	Albert Pike	"	339
Good Samaritan	"	104	Wilson Williams	"	351
Choctaw	"	107	Rock Mills	"	353
Coffeeville	"	122	Van Buren	"	355
Herndon	"	125	Newtonville	"	360
Geneva	"	129	Town Creek	"	361
Daleville	"	144	Chester	"	363
Bladon Spring	"	151	Pleasant Site	"	364
Mount Jefferson	"	152	Cotaco	"	366
Eastaboga	"	155	Chandler	"	367
Somerville	"	157	Russellville	"	371
Penick	"	161	Lake City	"	377
Mount Hope	"	168	Blue Spring	"	387
Buena Vista	"	169	Hickory Flat	"	392
Mount Hilliard	"	180	Valley Head	"	394
Caledonia	"	198	Black Oak	"	397
Helicon	"	201	Green Hill	"	402
Valley	"	203	Childersburg	"	403
Pettusville	"	207	Mineral Spring	"	405
Putnam	"	212	North River	"	407
Euclid	"	213	Hillsboro	"	408
Spring Hill	"	217	Pondtown	"	409
Western Star	"	222	Sulphur Spring	"	414
Santa Fe	"	226	Williamsburg	"	416
Dallas	"	228	Broomtown	"	420
John Payne	"	245			

FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

Florence	No. 14	Euclid	No. 213
George Washington	" 24	Spring Hill	" 217
Marengo	" 28	Dallas	" 228
Rising Sun	" 29	John Payne	" 245
Leighton	" 43	Toluca	" 249
Solomon	" 74	Gaylesville	" 256
Sawyer	" 93	Paint Rock	" 274
Benson	" 103	Daviston	" 283
Good Samaritan	" 104	Albert Pike	" 339
Coffeeville	" 122	Van Buren	" 355
Geneva	" 129	Newtonville	" 360
Bladon Spring	" 151	Town Creek	" 361
Mount Jefferson	" 152	Chester	" 363
Eastaboga	" 155	Pleasant Site	" 364
Somerville	" 157	Cotaco	" 366
Penick	" 161	Blue Spring	" 387
Mount Hope	" 168	Black Oak	" 397
Caledonia	" 198	Mineral Spring	" 405
Helicon	" 201	North River	" 407
Putnam	" 212	Williamsburg	" 416

LODGES REINSTATED.

Bellefonte	No. 82	Mount Eagle	No. 185
Roanoke	" 132	Munford	" 385

CHARTERS FORFEITED IN 1880.

Helion	No. 1	Brundidge	No. 184
Alabama	" 3	Opelika	" 195
Gilead	" 9	Tensaw	" 221
Warren	" 47	Larkinsville	" 277
Danville	" 95	Holly Grove	" 323
Forest Hill	" 110	Pikeville	" 344
Bradford	" 138	Sipsey	" 350
Rodgersville	" 147	Waterloo	" 382
Chambers	" 149	High Shoals	" 413
Etam	" 150		

FORFEITED, REVOKED, AND CONSOLIDATED.

Numbers 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 12, 13, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 38, 45, 47, 48, 58, 60, 66, 73, 77, 85, 86, 87, 92, 94, 95, 100, 109, 110, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 118, 121, 122, 128, 130, 137, 138, 139, 147, 149, 150, 156, 159, 160, 162, 164, 165, 167, 174, 177, 179, 182, 183, 184, 194, 195. 196, 202, 205, 206, 210, 214, 216, 220, 221, 229, 232, 234, 236, 239, 240, 253, 255, 259, 263, 268, 269, 273, 276, 277, 279, 284, 288, 289, 308, 316, 317, 318, 322, 323, 325, 326, 327, 328, 333, 336, 342, 343, 344, 347, 350, 352, 356, 362, 370, 372, 374, 382, 387, 393, 401, 413, 318—Total Number—125.

RECAPITULATION.

Lodges that were represented	201
Members reported at this Grand Communication	7,477
Estimate of members not reported	982
Dues received at this Grand Communication	$4,012 25
Lodges that made Returns	256
Lodges that made no Returns	45
Lodges that paid their Dues	249
Lodges that have not paid their Dues	41

Work of the Year 1880.

Number Initiated	423
Number Passed	394
Number Raised	370
Number Affiliated	272
Number Rejected	77
Number Dimitted	387
Number that Died	113
Number Suspended for Unmasonic Conduct	9
Number Expelled	11
Number Suspended for Non-payment of Dues	320
Number Reinstated	235

Condition of the Lodges.

Lodges Square upon the Book	201
Lodge Delinquent for non-representation	81
Charters forfeited, revoked, and consolidated	125
Army members	19
Lodges under Dispensation	3
Whole number at the end of the year	429

REGISTER OF LODGES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA.

No	NAME.	LOCATION.	COUNTY.	POST OFFICE.	MASTER.	SECRETARY.	COMMUNICAT'N.
1	Helion	Huntsville	Madison	Huntsville	John L. Rison	William H. Tancre	2 Tuesday
4	Rising Virtue	Tuscaloosa	Tuscaloosa	Tuscaloosa	John Snow	Joseph H. Tyler	2 & 4 Wed
6	Moulton	Moulton	Lawrence	Moulton	DeWitt C. White	Edward C. McDonald	4 Saturday
7	Macon	Grove Hill	Clarke	Grove Hill	James S Dickinson	Richard J. Woodard	4 Saturday
8	Farrar	Elyton	Jefferson	Elyton	Sam Thompson	Robert A. Terrell	1 Saturday
10	Royal White Hart	Clayton	Barbour	Clayton	James Stratton Paulin	Edgar R. Quillin	Sat bf 1 Sab
11	Montgomery	Montgomery	Montgomery	Montgomery	Emil Kulman	Calvin W. Sayre	1 & 3 Monday
16	Athens	Athens	Limestone	Athens	Joseph A. Moore	Samuel Tanner	1 Monday
22	Saint Albans	Linden	Marengo	Linden	William H. Grayson	Charles B. Cleveland	1 Saturday
25	Dale	Camden	Wilcox	Camden	James T. Beck	John T. Cook	Fri bf fm
26	La Fayette	Greensboro	Hale	Greensboro	Thomas R. Ward	Alexander H. Williams	3 Tuesday
27	Selma Fraternal	Selma	Dallas	Selma	Noadiah Woodruff	Adolph Jacobson	1 & 3 Mon
29	Rising Sun	Decatur	Morgan	Decatur	John W. Jones	Miles C. Wade	2 Tuesday
31	Autauga	Autaugaville	Autauga	Autaugaville	Osburn W. Sherrer	Albert W. McNeill	Last Saturday
36	Washington	Tuscumbia	Colbert	Tuscumbia	Thomas T. Rowland	James H. Simpson	2 Saturday
37	Courtland	Courtland	Lawrence	Courtland	Jacob W. Falk	Alfred D. Simmons Jr	Tuesday bfm
39	Metumpka	Wetumpka	Elmore	Wetumpka	Charles A. Sedberry	William S. Penick	Saturday bfm
40	Mobile	Mobile	Mobile	Mobile	William S. Foster	Frederick Graves	Every Monday
41	Lvingston	Livingston	Sumter	Livingston	William T. Abrahams	Isaiah C. Brown	4 Friday
42	Hiram	Jacksonville	Calhoun	Jacksonville	William M. Hames	William H. Dean	1 Monday
44	Gaston	Warsaw	Sumter	Warsaw	Francis L. Starnes	Frank M Grove	1 Wednesday
46	Harmony	Eufaula	Barbour	Eufaula	James Milton	John C. Thomas	2 & 4 Saturday
49	Demopolis	Demopolis	Marengo	Demopolis	Ernest J. Weil	Morris Mayer	1 & 3 Thurs
50	Union	Uniontown	Perry	Uniontown	Junie Harwood	John H. White	2 Thursday
51	Jefferson	Cedar Bluff	Cherokee	Cedar Bluff	Elijah S. Hardwick	George L. Hardwick	2 Friday
52	New Market	New Market	Madison	New Market	Francisco Rice	Robert J. Johnson	3 Saturday
53	Greening	Evergreen	Conecuh	Evergreen	George R. Farnham	John F. Tate	Saturday bfm
54	Amity	Eutaw	Greene	Eutaw	James B. Head	John R. Taylor	1 Monday
56	Troy	Troy	Pike	Troy	Samuel R. Cotton	Thomas H. Jones	1 & 3 Sat
57	Tuskegee	Tuskegee	Macon	Tuskegee	James A. Bilbro	Albert S. Harper	1 & 3 Mon
59	Benton	Benton	Lowndes	Benton	James Bryant, S. W.	William H. May	1 Saturday
61	Tompkinsville	Tompkinsville	Choctaw	Tompkinsville	William R. Horn	Joseph C. Calhoon	1 Saturday
62	Saint Johns	Union Springs	Bullock	Union Springs	James G. Cowan	William O. Baldwin	1 & 3 Friday
63	Social	Enon	Bullock	Enon	N. P. Banks	Charles H. Jernigan	
64	Eureka	Greenville	Butler	Greenville	Joseph M. Thigpen	Adam B. Dulin	1 & 3 Friday
65	Liberty	Bell's Church	Dallas	Martin's Station	Joseph A. Groves	Samuel W. Pegues	4 Friday
67	Hampden Sidney	Robinson's Spring	Elmore	Prattville	Edwin H. Robinson	Samuel H. Gibbons	3 Saturday

68	Holsey	Glennville	Russell	Glennville	Americus C. Mitchell	William R. Logan	4 Saturday
69	Howard	Mobile	Mobile	Mobile	Thomas Bell Jones	Philip C. Candidus	1 and 3 Tues
70	Central	Montevallo	Shelby	Montevallo	William F. Aldrich	George W. Rogan	Saturday bfm
71	Tohopeka	Dadeville	Tallapoosa	Dadeville	Allen D. Sturdivant	Berthold Sternberg	3 Saturday
72	Widow's Sun	Snow Hill	Wilcox	Snow Hill	William M. Hobdy	Elkanah Burson	Saturday bfm
75	Cokerville	Bethlehem Ch'ch	Monroe	Pine Apple	Hugh McKenzie	William R. Chapman	Sat bf 1 Sab
76	Auburn	Auburn	Lee	Auburn	Leonidas W. Payne	Patrick H. Swanson	1 and 3 Friday
78	Crozier	White Plains	Calhoun	White Plains	Andrew M Whiteside	James S. Slaughter	Sat bf 3 Sab
79	Fredonia	Fredonia	Chambers	Fredonia	Henry E. Hurst	George A. Hilt	Friday bfm
80	Wilcox	Allenton	Wilcox	Allenton	Joseph B. McWilliams	Leon Thalheimer	Friday bfm
81	Saint Stephens	Saint Stephens	Washington	Saint Stephens	Thomas H. Bailey	Joseph M. Pelham	2 Saturday
82	Bellefonte	Bellefonte	Jackson	Bellefonte	Nelson Kyle	Frank D. Hurt	4 Friday
83	Friendship	Centreville	Bibb	Centreville	James W. Crawford	Edward C. Cleveland	1 Saturday
84	Erophotic	Bragg's	Lowndes	Bragg's	James Scarborough	Eber D. Lavender	Saturday bfm
88	Meridian Sun	Pleasant Hill	Dallas	Pleasant Hill	Kenneth McKinnon	Aaron Maas	Friday bfm
89	Prattville	Prattville	Autauga	Prattville	George F. Smith	James H. Booth	Monday bfm
90	Pfister	McKinley	Marengo	McKinley	William B. Jackson Jr	James G. Kelly	1 Wednesday
91	Henry	Abbeville	Henry	Abbeville	Edward Blacklidge	James W. Stokes	2 and 4 Sat
96	Tuckabatchee	Crawford	Russell	Crawford	David D. Kent	John W. Grimes	2 and 4 Sat
97	Lozahatchee	Goehen	Cherokee	Ladiga, *Cal*	James M. Amberson	Hampton W. Glover	Sat bf 3 Sab
98	Fulton	Orrville	Dallas	Orrville	Frederick H. Smith	Lawrence L. Gaddy	3 Friday
99	Salem	Salem	Lee	Salem	William A. Dunn	Richard P. Floyd	2 and 4 Sat
101	Hartwell	Oxford	Calhoun	Oxford	Stephen C. Williams	Thomas H. Barry	4 Saturday
102	Newbern	Newbern	Hale	Newbern	Selby Hardenbergh	Samuel Eichold	3 Tuesday
104	Good Samaritan	Dudleyville	Tallapoosa	Dudleyville	William R. W. Key	William C. Jenkins	Sat bf 1 Sab
105	Shiloh	Hampden	Marengo	Hampden	Thomas A. Robinson	Joseph E. Smyly	3 Saturday
106	Hermon	Sumterville	Sumter	Sumterville	Joseph R. Ramsey	William H. Brown	Saturday bfm
107	Choctaw	Pushmataha	Choctaw	Pushmataha	James A Gilder	Joseph M. Gilder	4 Saturday
108	Oak Bowery	Oak Bowery	Chambers	Gold Hill, *Lee*	Hiram M. Bloodworth	John T. Hester	2 and 4 Sat
110	Forest Hill	Pleasant Grove	Pickens	Mantua, *Greene*	O. Robert Peebles	Louis A. Lavender	2 Saturday
111	Sylvan	Sylvan	Tuscaloosa	Sylvan	James Collier Foster	A. Fuller Prince	3 Saturday
117	Perryville	Perryville	Perry	Perryville	William W. Smith	George W. Pardue	3 Saturday
119	Notasulga	Notasulga	Macon	Notasulga	Ralph T Armstrong	William S. Ford	2 and 4 Sat
120	Camp Hill	Camp Hill	Tallapoosa	Camp Hill	Marcellus A. Trimble	Henry W. Spinks	Sat bf 3 Sab
123	Havana	Havana	Hale	Havana	George H. Sheldon	Robert P. Durham	1 Wednesday
124	Felix	Midway	Bullock	Midway	William C. Smith	Charles P. S. Daniel	Tues af 2&4 Sat
125	Herndon	Union	Greene	Union	Edward H. Lamb	James T. Smith	4 Saturday
126	Mortimer Reeder	Rock Spring	Lee	Loachapoka	Hiram M. Wilson	Samuel A. Richardson	2 and 4 Sat
127	Boliver	Stevenson	Jackson	Stevenson	Thomas Boyd Foster	Michael Graham	1 and 3 Fri
131	Yorkville	Yorkville	Pickens	Stafford Mills	Samuel C. Nabers	Washington Pridmore	1 Saturday
132	Roanoke	Roanoke	Randolph	Roanoke			
133	Loachapoka	Loachapoka	Lee	Loachapoka	Wiley W. Bloodworth	John W. Peddy	1 and 2 Tues

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No	NAME	LOCATION	COUNTY.	POST OFFICE.	MASTER.	SECRETARY.	COMMUNICAT'N
134	Wiley	Farrioryille ..	Bullock	Thomasville.	Aaron W. Boan ...	Augustus M. Stone....	1 & 3 Sat
135	Columbia. .	Columbia.	Henry	Columbia. . . .	Harrison Purcell.	Matthew W Kelly.....	2 & 4 Sat
136	Unity	Lower Peach Tree	Wilcox	Lower Peach Tree	Kossuth A Mayer .	James W. Gibson.	4 Saturday
140	Shelby .. .	Columbiana. .	Shelby.	Columbiana.....	Amos M Elliott	Alfred S. Hirscher... ..	Last Saturday
141	Bethel..	Arbacoochee	Cleburne	Arbacoochee . .	John J Teague.....	Robert C McCaghren	1 Thursday
142	Baldwin.	Stockton .	Baldwin .	Stockton. ...	David C. Byrne	George W Robinson..	2 Saturday
143	Burleson	Burleson	Franklin	Burleson	William H Thorn..	Robert W Nelson	1 Saturday
144	Daleville	Daleville	Dale. .. .	Daleville . ..	Alexander G. McLeod .	Daniel R Thomas.....	1 Saturday
145	Fraternity. ..	Blountsville	Blount.	Blountsville..	William F. Dickinson	Jackson L Montgomery	1 and 3 Sat
146	Missouri	Perote .	Bullock..	Perote. ...	George W. Dawson....	William A. Walker ...	3 Saturday
147	Rodgersville,.	Rodgersville	Lauderdale.	Rodgersville..	William H Grigsby..	William J. T. Stapler.	1 Saturday
148	Cold Water ..	Vance's Station	Tuscaloosa	Vance's Station	John A Vance	William Vance.....	Sat bf 3 Sab
153	Monroeville,....	Monroeville	Monroe	Monroeville.....	John DeLoach	Frank M Jones . .	Sat bf 3 Sab
154	Nixburgh	Nixburgh .	Coosa	Nixburgh.....	William L. Johnson. .	Lancaster J Funderburk	Sat bf 1 Sab
155	Eastaboga . . .	Eastaboga ...	Talladega	Eastaboga.....	John T. Donaldson.	Alonzo Montgomery...	3 Saturday
158	Maysville ..	Maysville ..	Madison		Thomas J. Taylor.....	William L. Giles	Friday bfm
163	Fa't'v'e Authentic	Fayetteville...	Talladega	Fayetteville.....	Kinion J Thomas	Michael S Bennett. ..	2 Saturday
166	Sumter	Gaston	Sumter	Gaston	Charles F. Threadgill	John N Gilmore	4 Saturday
169	Buena Vista. .	Sardis.	Bullock	Union Springs	William Foreman. ...	John B Martin	3 Saturday
170	Elba	Elba ...	Coffee .	Elba..	Angus Vaughan	James M. Saunders....	1 Saturday
171	Clopton	Barnes X Roads	Dale.. ..	Barnes X Roads	John H. Weed....	William Patterson . ..	2 and 4 Sat
172	Fellowship.	Fellowship.	Pickens... ..	Reform	Elias A Brown. .	Gideon R. Langdon	4 Saturday
23	Andrew Jackson	Montgomery..	Montgomery	Montgomery	Julius Tandy Glaze	Charles A. Allen.	1 and 3 Tues

203	Valley	Wacoochee Valley	Lee	Wacoochee	Columbus C. Malloy	William Craps	1 & 3 Sat
204	Manning Spring	Manning Spring	Montgomery	Pike Road	Reuben H. Brewer	Charles E. McDade	2 & 4 Sat
207	Pettusville	Elkmont	Limestone	Elkmont	Owen H. Mahone	James O. Dawson	2 Friday
208	Alexandria	Alexandria	Calhoun	Alexandria	Samuel D. McClellen	Hosea J. Dean	Sat bf 2 Sab
209	Marshall	Guntersville	Marshall	Guntersville	Solomon Palmer	Thomas B. Lusk	Sat bfm
211	York	Jasper	Walker	Jasper	Franklin A. Gamble	John C. Thompson	1 Friday
215	Builders	Planters' Instit'te	Talladega	Alpine	Clayborn H. Gorman	Richard E. Cook	1 Saturday
217	Spring Hill	Old Spring Hill	Marengo	Old Spring Hill	William W. Harder	James L. Daughdrill	4 Saturday
218	Sam Dixon	Centre	Cherokee	Centre	John S. Blair	David C. Daniel	1 Saturday
219	Lineville	Lineville	Clay	Lineville	Alexander Beck	Robert Griffin	3 Saturday
222	Western Star	Cuba Station	Sumter	Cuba Station	James H. Holmes	Henry H. Andrews	1 Saturday
223	Sandy Ridge	Sandy Ridge	Lowndes	Sandy Ridge	John C. Fonville	William W. Stone	Sat bf 2 Sab
224	Newton	Newton	Dale	Newton	Richard A. Ramsey	John W. Cassady	1 & 3 Sat
225	Louisville	Louisville	Barbour	Louisville	James Lang	Christopher C. Lee	1 & 3 Sat
226	Santa Fe	Jackson	Clarke	Jackson	Lamartine O. Hicks	Thomas J. Prim	3 Saturday
227	James Penn	Clopton	Dale	Clopton	William H. Stuckey	Augustus S. Clarke	2 & 4 Sat
230	Bexar	Bexar	Marion	Bexar	John Arnold	Isam J. Loyd	3 Saturday
231	Duck Spring	Duck Spring	Etowah	Green Wood	Francis M. Tabor	William B. Beeson	Sat bfm
233	Sepulga	Starlington	Butler	Georgiana	Daniel D. Bennett	Marion A. Ray	3 Saturday
235	Harpersville	Harpersville	Shelby	Harpersville	William A. O'Hara	William R. Singleton	4 Saturday
237	Tallassee	Tallassee	Tallapoosa	Tallassee	Robert T. Ashurst	Solomon T. Strickland	4 Saturday
238	Fairmount	Fairmount	Covington	Red Level	Zebulon Terry	Jerry M. Parker	2 Saturday
241	Bowen	Whistler	Mobile	Whistler	John Eggler	Thomas Halliwell	1 Thurs
242	Coosa	Buyckville	Elmore	Sykes' Mill	Isaac C. Hall	W. K. Whetstone	2 Saturday
243	Ramer	Ramer	Montgomery	Ramer	Anthony H. Sellers	John T. Sentell	1 & 3 Sat
244	Dawson	Oaky Streak	Butler	Aiken—*Crenshaw*	James H. Shine	John T. Watson	Sat bf 1& 3 Sab
246	Harrison	Henderson	Pike	Henderson	John A. Law	Benjamin Stripling	4 Saturday
247	Cropwell	Cropwell	Saint Clair	Cropwell	William A. Murchison	Lealis Law	4 Saturday
248	Lawrence	Lawrenceville	Henry	Lawrenceville	Nathaniel L. Hawley	Council Batchelor	2 Saturday
250	Amand	Chestnut Creek	Chilton	Cooper's Station	Moses D. Pinson	William G. Easterling	4 Saturday
251	Camp Creek	Honoraville	Crenshaw	Honoraville	Thomas L. Quillian	Abijah M. Addison	1 Saturday
252	North Port	North Port	Tuscaloosa	North Port	Henry H. Brown	Josiah H. Freeman	3 Saturday
254	Quitman	East Georgia	Butler	Georgiana	Thomas M. J. Porter	John P. Arant	4 Saturday
257	Ervin	Holly Grove	Walker	Edgil	William P. Smith	Chandler Y. Robberts	4 Saturday
258	Randolph	Randolph	Bibb	Randolph	William H. Mahan	William A. Greene	4 Saturday
260	Bellville	Bellville	Conecuh	Bellville	Anthony D. Sampey	John S. Watson	Sat bf 2 Sab
261	Talladega	Talladega	Talladega	Talladega	Myles J. Greene	Henry H. Hamill	1 Friday
262	Highland	Highland	Shelby	Highland	Robert F. Johnson	John Acton	1 Saturday
264	Walnut Grove	Walnut Grove	Etowah	Walnut Grove	John H. Campbell	Jesse E. Murphree	4 Saturday
265	Meridian	Meridianville	Madison	Bell Factory	John M. Humphrey	James M Jones	1 Friday
266	Mount Pleasant	Mount Pleasant	Monroe	Mount Pleasant	Joseph W. Shomo	William M. Ferrell	2 Saturday
267	Wind Creek	Wind Creek	Tallapoosa	Susanna	John Y. Johnston	John R. Umphress	2 & 4 Sat

REGISTER OF LODGES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA.

No	NAME	LOCATION.	COUNTY	POST OFFICE.	MASTER	SECRETARY	COMMUNICATIONS.
270	Butler Springs	Monterey	Butler	Monterey	Thomas H Barge	Archie C Luckie	Sat bf 3 Sab
271	Pea River	Victoria	Coffee	Victoria	William T Chapman	John E Bishop	3 Saturday
272	Clifton	Clifton	Wilcox	Clifton	William A Kimbrough	Jere T Furman	1 Saturday
275	Frankfort	Frankfort	Franklin	Frankfort	James T Kimbrough	John M Fubler	Sat bf 2 Sab
278	Northern	New Hope	Madison	New Hope	Alvis Whited	George W Childers	Saturday bfm
280	Springville	Springville	Saint Clair	Springville	Andrew J Donnelly	John O Furner	4 Saturday
281	Charles Baskerville	Fayette C H	Fayette	Fayette C H	Absalom J Renfro	Gustavus Legg	Sat 1 f 4 Sab
282	Richmond	Richmond	Dallas	Minter Station	Mark N Ethridge	Henry H Sturgis	Thurs bfm
285	Georgiana	Georgiana	Butler	Georgiana	Amasa L Palmer	Elisha C Milner	1 & 3 Saturday
286	Walker	Arkadelphia	Blount	Arkadelphia	Thomas F S York	John H Willoughby	Sat bf 2 Sab
287	Clinton	Sparkman	Dale	Skipperville	Levi Wilkinson	George H Thomas	2 and 4 Sab
290	Gillespie	Cleveland Ch	Fayette	Brandy	William Berry	William N Ellis	Sat bf 1 Sab
291	Fort Deposit	Fort Deposit	Lowndes	Fort Deposit	Thomas Blake	Wesley P Rice	2 and 4 Sat
301	Norris	Pollard	Escambia	Pollard	William J O Bannon	John B McClellan	1 Saturday
304	Zion	Pine Grove Ch	Fayette	Mont Calm	Elisha Hickory	Washington T Musgrove	Sat bf 3 Sab
305	Central City	Selma	Dallas	Central City	Julius C Adler	Thomas S Bowen	2 Wednesday
315	Jonesboro	Jonesboro	Jefferson	Mc alla	Frank Prince	Isaac W McAdory	4 Saturday
319	Cuttsville	Cuttsville	Madison	Cuttsville	John S Bronaugh	Benjamin F Larson	Sat bfm
320	Warrenton	Warrenton	Marshall	Warrenton	Alexander W Black	Jasper Smith	1 Saturday
321	Pleasant Hill	Allen's Factory	Marion	Chalk Bluff	John R Phillips	Leroy W Green	2 Saturday
324	Viola	Chepultepec	Blount	Chepultepec	Uriah Tidwell	William F Fendley	1 Saturday
329	Madison Station	Madison Station	Madison	Madison Station	George R Sullivan	John H Dunn	1 Thursday
330	Forkland	Forkland	Marion	Forkland	George C Arrington	Charles E Latimer	3 Saturday
331	Charity	Six Mile	Bibb	River Bend	Pleasant M Fancher	James H Pratt	3 Saturday
332	Blue Eye	Lincoln	Talladega	Lincoln	Thomas J Brewer	James M Montgomery	1 Saturday
334	Oliver	Choctaw Corner	Clarke	Choctaw Corner	MarmadukeKimbrough	Stephen M Gilmore	3 Saturday
336	Nanafalia	Nanafalia	Marengo	Nanafalia	Albert G Westbrook	David P Barr	Sat bf 4 Sab
337	Johnson	Mount Ida	Crenshaw	Mount Ida	John D Massey	Lewis J Kelly	1 Saturday
338	Georgiana Davis	Truesville	Jefferson	Truesville	Robert O Hewitt	Dyer N Talley	2 and 4 Sat
340	Clear Creek	Sardis Church	Winston	Larissa	Anderson Ward	Thomas G Dupree	Sat bf 1 Sab
341	Ragan	Daysville	Calhoun	Daysville	David A Wright	William F Bowling	2 and 4 Sat
344	Pikeville	Pikeville	Marion	Pikeville	Middleton C Martin	Madison M Frazier	1 Saturday
345	Echo	Echo	Dale	Echo	William S Burgess	Calvin Barnes	Sat bf 3 Sab
346	Hurtville	Hurtville	Russell	Hurtville	Edward N Brown	Charlton Thompson	2 Wednesday
		Mobile	Mobile	Molde	Palmer J Pillans	Benton C Bain	4 Saturday
		Ozark	Dale	Ozark	Angus M Scott	Mark A Cook	Sat bfm
			Tuscaloosa	Bigsey Turnpike	James Mills Jun	James F Williams	1 Saturday

351	Wilson Williams	Brownville	Lee	Lively—*Russell*	James K. Rentfrow	John H. Kinnett	2 and 4 Thurs
353	Rock Mills	Rock Mills	Randolph	Rock Mills	Thomas J. Thomason	Frederick W. Hill	2 and 4 Sat
354	Heaton						
357	Rutledge	Rutledge	Crenshaw	Rutledge	John S. Mash	Edmund H. Johnson	2 Saturday
358	Barbour	Hull	Tuscaloosa	Hull	John D. Blocker	Thomas J. Farmer	2 Saturday
359	Scottsboro	Scottsboro	Jackson	Scottsboro	Milton P. Brown	Lorenzo D. Burgess	1 Friday
364	Pleasant Site	Pleasant Site	Franklin	Pleasant Site	James T. Bolding	James H. Drake	3 Saturday
365	Houston	Houston	Winston	Houston	George W. Hilton	Simeon Nelson	2 Saturday
366	Cotaco	Skidmore's Ch	Morgan	Apple Grove	James M. Winfrey	James S. Raines	Sat bfm
367	Chandler	Edwardsville	Cleburne	Edwardsville	Thomas J. Burton	William B, Ferguson	1 Mon & 2 Sat
368	Cross Plains	Cross Plains	Calhoun	Cross Plains	Andrew J. Sitton	Rufus N. Penny	Sat bf 4 Sab
369	Athelstan	Mobile	Mobile	Mobile	Thomas J. Brewer	Fielding Vaughan	Every Thurs
371	Russellville	Russellville	Franklin	Russellville	Benjamin W. Hudson	John Thompson	Sat bf 3 Sab
373	Bell's Landing	Bell's Landing	Monroe	Bell's Lauding	Calvin C. Nettles	Alexander T. Howard	Sat bf 1 Sun
375	Gainesville	Gainesville	Sumter	Gainesville	Edward N. Kring	Thomas F. Ramage	Sat bfm
376	Sauta Creek	Hillian's Store	Marshall	Hillian's Store	Seaborn Phillips	Rufus R. Kirby	4 Saturday
377	Lake City	Lake View	Covington	Lake View	James M. Williams	Samuel J. Ansley	4 Saturday
378	Weogufka	Weogufka	Coosa	Stewartsville	James T. Thompson	Julius A. Brown	Sat bf 1 Sab
379	Robert E. Lee	Pine Apple	Wilcox	Pine Apple	David W. Ramsey	James E. Cogburn	2 Saturday
380	Ohatchee	Peck's Hill	Calhoun	Peck's Hill	Eli D. Meharg	John T. Wilkins	Sat bf 2 & 4 Sab
381	E. H. Cook	Rehoboth	Wilcox	Rehoboth	John H. Malone	James C. Gross	2 Saturday
382	Waterloo	Waterloo	Lauderdale	Waterloo	John B. McGee	Oliver P. Tucker	Sat bfm
383	Ben Pope	Attalla	Etowah	Attalla	Nathaniel S. Bond	John W. Duncan	2 Saturday
384	Birmingham Fr't'l	Birmingham	Jefferson	Birmingham	Julian L. Lockwood	John L. Davis	2 and 4 Mon
385	Munford	Munford	Talladega	Munford	Robert T. Conley	John J. Weatherly	2 Thursday
386	Trinity	Trinity Station	Morgan	Trinity Station	Isaac F. Thompson	William I. Sewell	Sat bfm
388	Newburgh	Newburgh	Franklin	Newburgh	Wesley M. Smith	Isaac L. Graves	Sat bfm 4 Sab
389	Vernon	Vernon	Lamar	Vernon C. H.	Thomas W. Springfield	Alexander Cobb	1 Saturday
390	Weathers	Wesobulga	Clay	Blake's Ferry	James W. Swann	John E. Garrett	2 Saturday
391	North Border	Salem Church	Limestone	Mount Rozelle	Mack R Wilkinson	James C. Gordon	1 Saturday
392	Hickory Flat	Hickory Flat	Chambers	Hickory Flat	Andrew J. Thompson	Green L. Carmichael	1 and 3 Sat
394	Valley Head	Valley Head	DeKalb	Valley Head	John L. White	Edmund P. Nicholson	4 Friday
395	Opelika	Opelika	Lee	Opelika	Isaac Heyman	Heineman Blumenfeld	1 and 3 Thurs
396	Falkville	Falkville	Morgan	Falkville	James T. Morris	Felix G. Srygley	Sat bfm
398	Hartselle	Hartselle	Morgan	Hartselle	John F. Turney	Andrew A. Oden	Sat bfm
399	Haw Ridge	Haw Ridge	Coffee	Haw Ridge	Benjamin F. Warren	Samuel D. Clark	4 Saturday
400	Hanceville	Hanceville	Blount	Hanceville	Aaron T. House	James P. Green	2 Saturday
402	Green Hill	Green Hill	Lauderdale	Green Hill	Elias M. McDonald	Fernando S. McDonald	Sat bfm
403	Childersburg	Childersburg	Talladega	Childersburg	Richard E. R. Hicks	Henry J. Cliett	Sat bf 3 Sab
404	Hoboken	Hoboken	Marengo	Hoboken	Stephen S. Etheredge	Thomas J. Hudson	1 Saturday
406	Doric	Tallassee	Elmore	Tallassee	Lovic H. Godwin	William G. Cox	Tues bfm
408	Hillsboro	Hillsboro	Lawrence	Hillsboro	Absalom W. Bailey	Robert F. Bentley	Sat after fm

REGISTER OF LODGES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA.

No	NAME	LOCATION.	COUNTY.	POST OFFICE.	MASTER.	SECRETARY.	COMMUNICAT'N
409	Pondtown	Pondtown.	Geneva ..	Warwick ...	Wilson Barlow.....	Joachim L. White.....	1 and 3 Sat
410	Helena	Helena.	Shelby.	Helena.	Thomas Cleary	Horace W. Bowers ..	2 and 4 Sat
411	Jemison	Jemison..	Chilton	Jemison	Seaborn J Heath ...	Seaborn E Cleckley.	Sat bfm
412	Amberson.	Amberson.	Cherokee....	Spring Garden.	George D. Hanks.	Thomas N. White	Sat bfm
413	High Shoals.....	High Shoals	Randolph...	High Shoals..	Stephen S. Walker	William Weathers.	1 and 3 Sat
414	Sulphur Spring	Mineral Spring.	DeKalb . .	Smith, *Dade, Geo*	Joseph H. Gardner.	John B. Bell..... . .	Thurs on orbfm
415	Oak Level	Oak Level .	Cleburne	Oak Level.. ...	Robert M. Howell	Wilson P. Howell.	Sat bf 4 Sab
417	George Smith	Toad Vine .	Jefferson.	Toad Vine	William C. Howton	Jacob Smith	3 Saturday
419	Hilton.	Blooming Grove	Walker	South Lowell	Benjamin F. Tingle	Alfred L. Brooks	4 Saturday
420	Broomtown	Broomtown.....	Cherokee.	Broomtown	Harrison J Clark . .	Arnold Shamblin	Sat bf 4 Sab
421	Cullman Fraternal	Cullman	Cullman ...	Cullman..	Thaddeus W. McMinn.	Charles A. Beckert.	1 Friday
422	Shorterville..	Shorterville.....	Henry	Shorterville	Leroy R Sims . ..	Angus J. Teague.....	1 and 3 Sat
423	Clanton.	Clanton ...	Chilton.	Clanton ..	William D Sartor.. .	Isaac D. Lanier. ..	1 Saturday
424	George Wilson . ..	York Station . .	Sumter	York Station	James M. Peteet. . .	Robert D. Hoot ...	4 Friday
425	Temple	Marion	Perry.....	Marion.	Nathaniel T Green	William H. Mason.. ..	1 and 3 Mon
426	Daniel Pratt.. ..	Oxmoor	Jefferson	Oxmoor	George W. Smith.	Isaac Veitch.	2 and 4 Sat
427	Coketon	Pratt Mines	Jefferson.....	Pratt Mines.	John A. Baker.... ..	George W. Brown.....	Sat bf 2 Sab

MEMORANDA.

REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER GRAND LODGES NEAR THE GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA.

Wilson Williams	*Opelika*	Arkansas.
———	———	Brazil.
Stephen H. Beasley	*Montgomery*	British Columbia.
George F. Moore	*Montgomery*	Canada.
Robert D. Webb, M. D.	*Livingston*	District Columbia.
Morris K. Taylor	*Meridianville*	England.
David Clopton	*Montgomery*	Florida.
Joseph H. Johnson, M. D.	*Talladega*	Georgia.
John Gideon Harris	*Livingston*	Idaho.
Daniel Sayre	*Montgomery*	Illinois.
Henry C. Armstrong	*Montgomery*	Indian Territory.
Peleg Brown	*Mobile*	Indiana.
Daniel Sayre	*Montgomery*	Iowa.
William A. O'Hara, M. D.	*Harpersville*	Ireland.
John J. Delchamps	*Mobile*	Italy.
———	———	Kansas.
Daniel Sayre	*Montgomery*	Kentucky.
David Clopton	*Montgomery*	Louisiana.
James B. Luckie, M. D.	*Birmingham*	Maine.
Joel White	*Montgomery*	Maryland.
Palmer J. Pillans	*Mobile*	Michigan.
———	———	Minnesota.
Thomas M. Bragg, M. D.	*Greenville*	Mississippi.
Daniel Sayre	*Montgomery*	Missouri.
Palmer J. Pillans	*Mobile*	Nebraska.
Palmer J. Pillans	*Mobile*	New Mexico.
Oliver S. Beers	*Mobile*	New Jersey.
Henry Clay Tompkins	*Montgomery*	New York.
George D. Norris, M. D.	*New Market*	North Carolina.
Daniel Sayre	*Montgomery*	Nova Scotia.
Daniel Sayre	*Montgomery*	Oregon.
Isaiah A. Wilson	*Union Springs*	Pennsylvania.
George P. Harrison Jr.	*Opelika*	Prince Edward I'ld.
Horatio C. Grayson	*Choctaw Corner*	Rhode Island.
George D. Norris, M. D.	*New Market*	Tennessee.
Nathaniel D. Cross	*Selma*	Texas.
Daniel Smith	*Mobile*	Vermont.
———	———	West Virginia.
Palmer J. Pillans	*Mobile*	Wisconsin.

MEMORANDA.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA NEAR OTHER GRAND LODGES.

Elbert H. Engeish	*Little Rock*	Arkansas.
Pedro Antonio Gomez	*Rio Janeiro*	Brazil.
Samuel B. Harman	*Toronto*	Canada.
Alexander Alfred Green	*Victoria*	British Columbia.
Phillip H. Hooe	*Washington*	District Columbia.
Bracston Baker	*London*	England.
William A. Love, M. D.	*Atlanta*	Georgia.
Charles P. Bilderback	*Boise City*	Idaho.
James A. Hawley	*Dixon*	Illinois.
James S. Murrow	*Atoka*	Indian Territory.
Martin H. Rice	*Indianapolis*	Indiana.
Ozias P. Waters	*Muscatine*	Iowa.
Francis Quin	*Dublin*	Ireland.
Thomas J. Anderson	*Topeka*	Kansas.
Charles Tilden	*Louisville*	Kentucky.
Samuel H. Todd	*New Orleans*	Louisiana.
Josiah H. Drummond	*Portland*	Maine.
William M. Isaac	*Baltimore*	Maryland.
Arthur M. Clark	*Lexington*	Michigan.
Richard A. Jones	*Rochester*	Minnesota.
Frank Burkitt	*Okolona*	Mississippi.
James E. Cadle	*Chillicothe*	Missouri.
James W. Chadduck	*Nebraska City*	Nebraska.
William S. Whitehead	*Newark*	New Jersey.
David J. Miller	*Santa Fe*	New Mexico.
Daniel T. Walden	*New York*	New York.
Donald W. Bain	*Raleigh*	North Carolina.
Robert C. Fraser	*Halifax*	Nova Scotia.
James R. Bailey	*Corvallis*	Oregon.
Richard Vaux	*Philadelphia*	Pennsylvania.
Donald Darrach	*Kensington*	Prince Edward Ild.
Dwight R. Adams	*Centreville*	Rhode Island.
Townsend A. Thomas	*Clarksville*	Tennessee.
Henry H. Smith	*Rutland*	Vermont.
Edward M. Lackland	*Charlestown*	West Virginia.
Joseph Hamilton	*Milwaukee*	Wisconsin.

GRAND SECRETARIES AND THEIR ADDRESS.

0.	Alabama	Daniel Sayre	Montgomery.
1.	Arkansas	Luke E. Barber	Little Rock.
2.	California	Alexander Gurdon Abell	San Francisco.
3.	Colorado	Edward C. Parmelee	Georgetown.
4.	Connecticut	Joseph K. Wheeler	Hartford.
5.	Delaware	William S. Hayes	Wilmington.
6.	District of Columbia.	William Reynolds Singleton	Washington.
7.	Florida	DeWitt Clinton Dawkins	Jackson.
8.	Georgia	James Emmett Blackshear	Macon.
9.	Illinois	John F. Burrill	Springfield.
10.	Indiana	William H. Smythe	Indianapolis.
11.	Iowa	Theodore Sutton Parvin	Iowa City.
12.	Kansas	John Henry Brown	Wyandotte.
13.	Kentucky	Hiram Bassett	Louisville.
14.	Louisiana	James Cunningham Batchelor.	New Orleans.
15.	Maine	Ira Berry	Portland.
16.	Maryland	Jacob H. Medairy	Baltimore.
17.	Massachusetts	Tracy P. Cheever	Boston.
18.	Michigan	Ellery I. Garfield	Detroit.
19.	Minnesota	Azariah T. C. Pierson	Saint Paul.
20.	Mississippi	John Logan Power	Jackson.
21.	Missouri	John D. Vincil	Saint Louis.
22.	Nebraska	William Robert Bowen	Omaha.
23.	Nevada	John D. Hammond	Carson.
24.	New Hampshire	George Perley Cleaves	Concord.
25.	New Jersey	Joseph Howell Hough	Trenton.
26.	New York	James McMurray Austin	New York.
27.	North Carolina	Donald W. Bain	Raleigh.
28.	Ohio	John Day Caldwell	Cincinnati.
29.	Oregon	F. J. Babcock	Salem.
30.	Pennsylvania	Michael Nisbet	Philadelphia.
31.	Rhode Island	Edwin Baker	Providence.
32.	South Carolina.	Charles Inglesby	Charleston.
33.	Tennessee	John Frizzell	Nashville.
34.	Texas	George H. Bringhurst	Houston.
35.	Vermont	William H. Root	Burlington.

36.	Virginia	William Bryan Isaacs	Richmond.
37.	West Virginia	Odell Squier Long	Wheeling.
38.	Wisconsin	John Wesley Woodhull	Milwaukee.
39.	Dakota	Charles T. McCoy	Bon Homme.
40.	Idaho	Lewis F. Cartee	Boise City.
41.	Montana	Cornelius Hedges	Helena.
42.	New Mexico	David J. Miller	Santa Fe.
43.	Utah	Christopher Diehl	Salt Lake City.
44.	Washington	Thomas Milburne Reed	Olympia.
45.	Wyoming	William G. Tonn	Evanston.
46.	Indian Territory	James S. Murrow	Atoka.
47.	Canada	John J. Mason	Hamilton, Ont.
48.	New Brunswick	William F. Bunting	Saint John.
49.	Nova Scotia	Benjamin Curren, D. C. L.	Halifax.
50.	Quebec	John Helder Isaacson	Montreal.
51.	British Columbia	Edward Crow Baker	Laurel Point.
52.	Manitoba	William G. Scott	Winnipeg.
53.	Prince Edward Isl'nd.	George W. Wakeford	Charlottetown.
54.	England	Shadwell Henry Clerke	London.
55.	Ireland	Samuel B Oldham, Dep	Dublin.
56.	Scotland	David Murray Lyon	Edinborough.
57.	Brazil	Alexander F. DeAmaral	Rio Janeiro.
58.	Chili	Jose Maldonado	Valparaiso.
59.	Peru	Charles Prince	Lima.
60.	Spain	Francisco Conde	Salud 6, Madrid
61.	Hongrie	Henri Iby 3°	Budapest, Waitner Boulevard No. 45.
62.	New South Wales	Nicholas Weeks	Sidney, Aust'la.
63.	Preussen	Bouche	Berlin.
64.	Schweden	Carl Ludvig Henning Thulstrup.	Stockholm.
65.	Cuba	Sr. D. Aurelio Almeida	114 Manrique.

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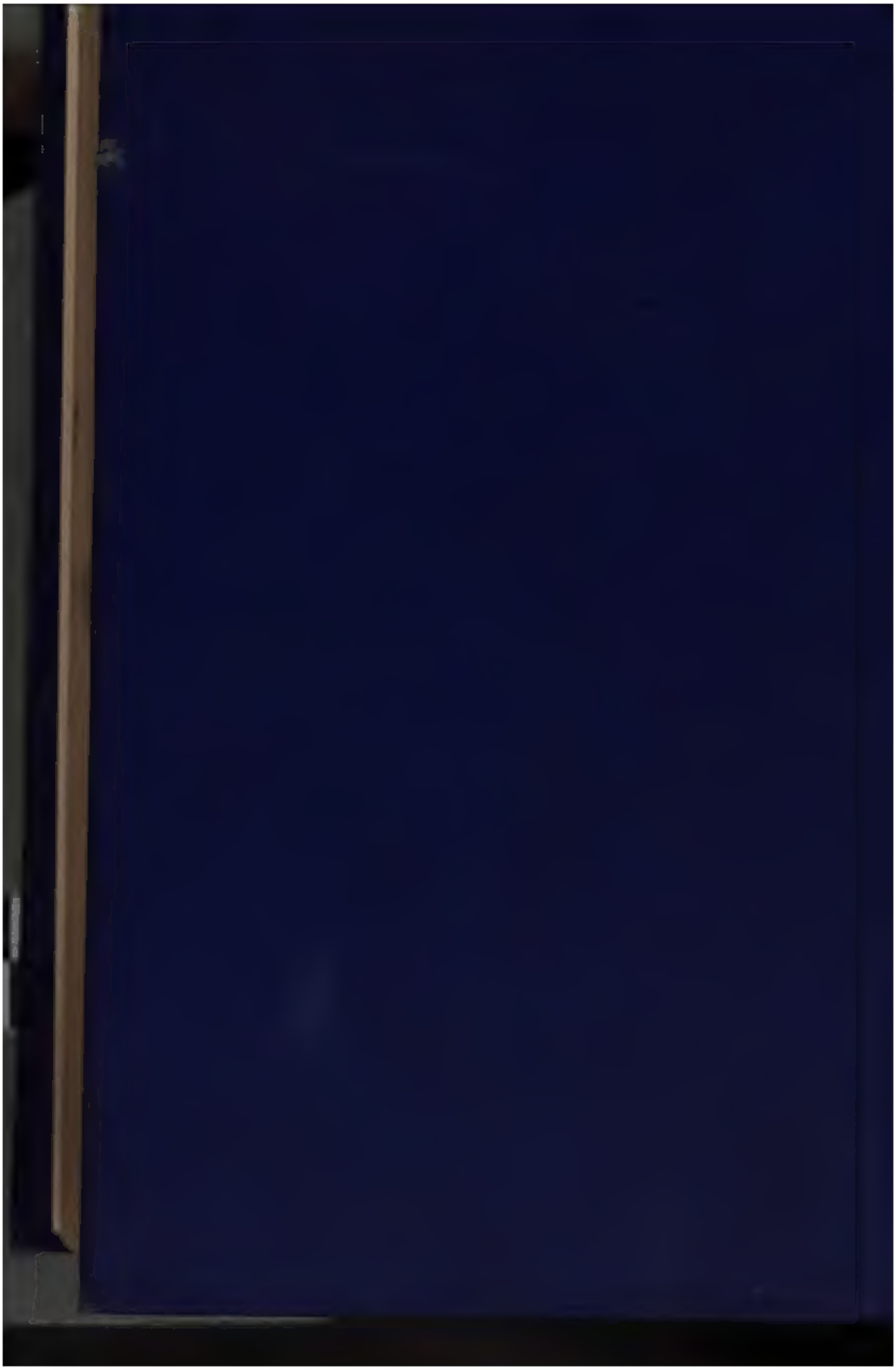
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